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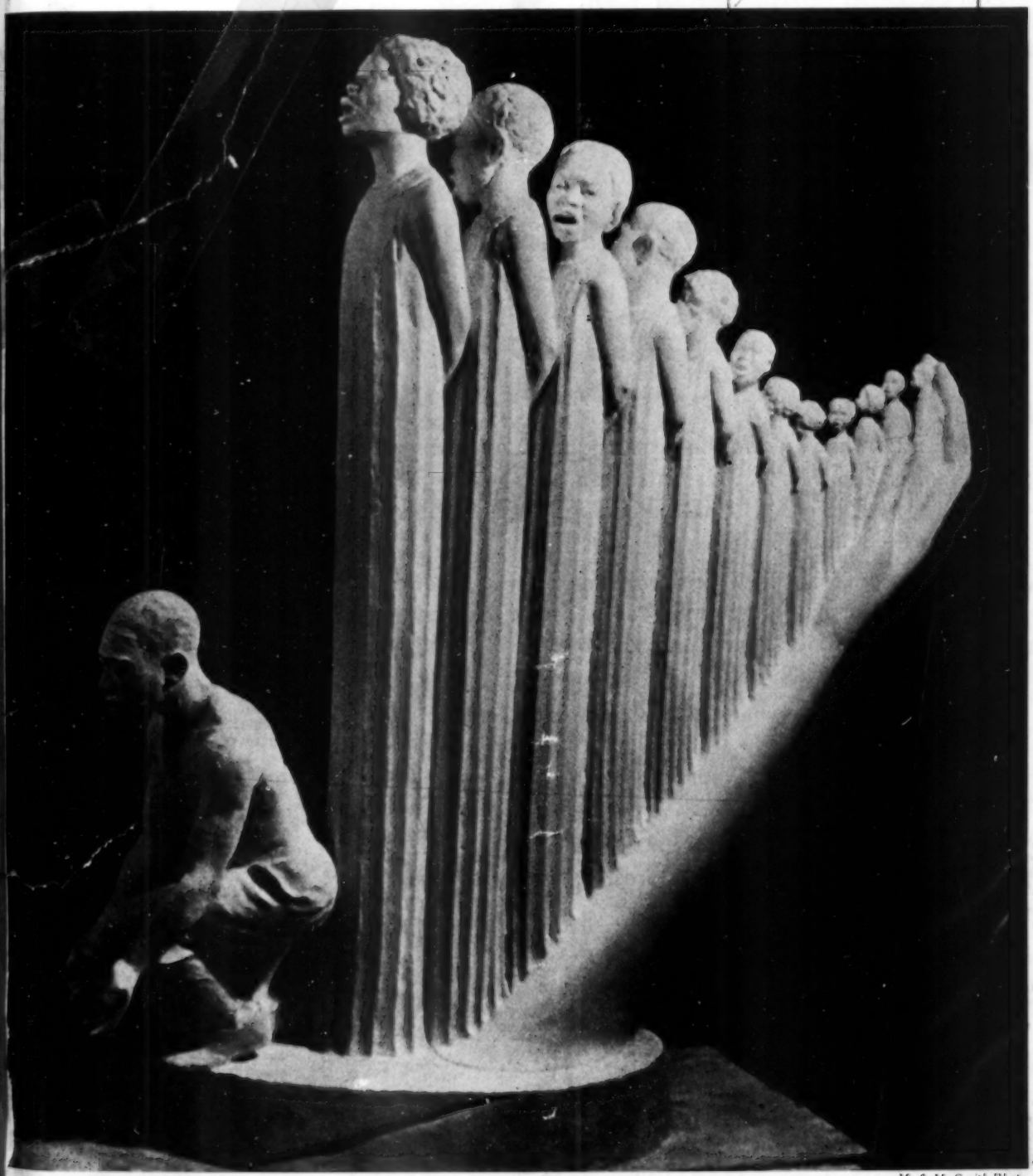

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Unique and well-written is "How to Help Friends to Influence People," the 44-page report of the 4th and 5th years of President Buell Gallagher's administration at **Talladega College.** The new Savery Library will be dedicated late this month.

Dr. Flemmis P. Kittrell directed the recent thirteenth observance of the Home-Making Institute at **Bennett College.** Central theme was: "Child Development and Parent Education." Forty community children have registered in special art classes meeting Saturdays. Miss Eva K. Smith, Bennet art instructor, is in charge.

Fifty-five students were included on **Shaw University's** honor roll for the first semester. Miss Martha Brett of Winton was outstanding with an "A" grade in all courses for her fifth consecutive time.

Miles Matthews Jefferson, **West Virginia State College** Librarian, resumed his duties at the beginning of the second semester after a period of professional study at Columbia University library school. The College is sponsoring an Educational Exposition in celebration of Founders' Day on May 3, featuring productive, creative and business achievements of Negroes in the state.

Storer College's professor of Mathematics, John N. Meighan, contributed an article to School Science and Mathematics which appeared in its February issue.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the National Association of Personnel Deans and Advisors of Men in Negro Educational Institutions will be held at **Tuskegee Institute,** April 27–29. General theme: Meeting the Needs of the College Student Through Counseling and Guidance.

The Fifth Annual Conference of the Florida Intercollegiate Interracial Committee met at **Bethune-Cookman College** February 24. There are three Negro and four white member colleges.

"Pagan Prayer," a solo dance interpretation by Frank Roberts, Liberian graduate of **Hampton Institute,** will be given at the World's Fair in New York.

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Address the Dean

To Ralph J. Bunche, head of the **Howard University** department of Economics, has been awarded the annual Anisfield grant-in-aid of $500.00 to complete a book on "An Analysis of the Political and Economic Status of Non-White Populations in South Africa."

The Fourth Annual Memorial Services in honor of the late Dr. John Hope, for 25 years president of **Morehouse College,** was held on February 24. Founders' Day was observed February 18–19 by alumni, students and faculty, commemorating the 72nd anniversary of the founding of the college. Dr. James M. Nebrit, a Morehouse alumnus and now executive secretary to the president of Howard University was the principal speaker.

Knoxville College was host to the annual conference of the Association of the Teachers of English in Negro colleges March 31 and April 1. General subject: The place and teaching of literature in college. A Hammond organ has been purchased for the college chapel. Ernest Neal, '36, has been appointed head of the department of sociology, Texas College, Tyler, Texas.

The campaign for books for the **Morgan College** library is in full swing. Many needed books have been contributed. Numerous back issues of THE CRISIS, *Opportunity*, the *Journal of Negro History* and the *Journal of Negro Education* are wanted. Write to the librarian for the specific copies needed.

No 1 on the **Cheyney State Teachers College** honor roll for the first semester was Miss Leona Johnson, '39, of Philadelphia.

President Judson L. Cross and Dean Fraser of **Tougaloo College** attended the recent meeting of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools at Tallahassee, Fla.

Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School has inaugurated a new marking system which is showing good results, according to the Dean's office.

Prairie View College was host to 2000 Negro and white educators attending the Tenth Educational Conference on March 10. Dr. L. A. Woods, State Superintendent of Education, presided.

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The Home Economics Division of **The Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College** is offering for the first time to senior agricultural students a survey course in Home Economics. Its purpose is to establish better ideals and develop more wholesome attitudes toward homemakers and a clearer understanding of the responsibilities of the home.

Swift Memorial Junior College celebrated Negro History Week with a comprehensive program under the general sponsorship of Miss Clarice Jones, head of the Department of Education.

Gammon Theological Seminary observed Rural Emphasis Week March 6–10. Dr. W. A. C. Hughes of the Board of Home Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church presided, assisted by a group of nationally known specialists in rural work.

Jesse B. Blayton, professor of accounting at **Atlanta University** and president of the Atlanta Negro Chamber of Commerce, is author of an article entitled "Some Common Characteristics of Life Insurance and Banking" appearing in the February issue of the "Insurance Counsellor."

A former faculty member, Miss Idella M. Swift, passed away on February 7, at Stamford, Conn. She joined the faculty in 1886 and retired in 1923. She was almost 93 years old.

South Carolina State A. & M. College is the recipient of two gifts, for the improvement of scholarship and instructional facilities, from unsolicited sources. Bernard M. Baruch, New York financier, and native of South Carolina, recently sent President M. F. Whittaker a check for ten thousand dollars. Mr. Baruch directed that the fund be used as an endowment for scholarships for worthy students of the Negro race. He stated he had selected South Carolina State because it was a colored institution and he realized there were so many deserving colored boys and girls in his native state who did not have an opportunity to go to college, and that he might help in a small way.

The second gift was from the General Education Board, New York City, is five thousand dollars for additional physics equipment. It will enable the college to improve instruction in the applied sciences. The physics laboratory is in charge of Professor P. V. Jewell, a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

THE CRISIS has received a copy of the study "Job Opportunities for Negro Youth in Columbus, O," compiled by the National Youth Administration in Ohio.

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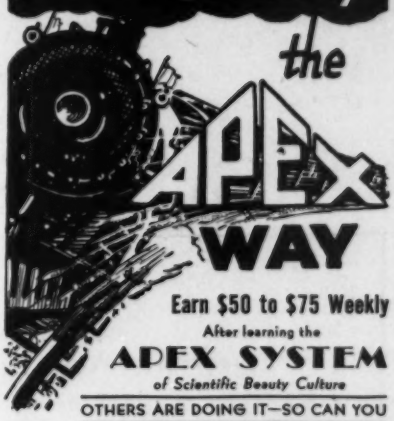

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MRS. LILLIAN A. ALEXANDER, *Treasurer*

Volume 46, No. 4 *Whole No. 340*

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The sculpture, "Lift Ev'ry Voice And Sing" by Augusta Savage which will stand near the Contemporary Art building at the New York World's Fair

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910. *It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15c *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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THE COVER

Augusta Savage, one of the best known of sculptors among colored people, was commissioned last year to do a piece for the New York World's Fair. Miss Savage chose James Weldon Johnson's poem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" with its magnificent accompanying music by J. Rosamond Johnson for her inspiration. The picture on the cover is of an unfinished sketch by the artist, since a photograph has not yet been made of the finished piece.

NEXT MONTH

THE CRISIS will present next month the first of several illustrated features on what to see in New York, and especially in Harlem, while visiting the New York World's Fair.

•

There will be, also in the April issue, a piece on the contributions of Negro scientists and engineers to American civilization by Dean L. K. Downing of Howard University.

•

We expect to have, also, a new bit of fiction and several shorter articles including "White Racialism in America" from the pen of a Jewish commentator.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Glenn Hutchinson is a native of Georgia and a student in the graduate school of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N. C.

•

Robert Smith is editor of the Newspaper Institute of America and chairman of the Committee to Uphold Southern Democracy.

•

Thelma Rea Thurston is a member of the staff of *The Call*, Kansas City, Mo. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota in journalism and while there was initiated into Theta Sigma Phi, national honorary journalism sorority.

•

Buell G. Gallagher is president of Talladega College in Alabama. He is author of "American Caste and the Negro College" published by Columbia University Press in November, 1938.

•

Elaine Ellis has done a number of pieces for THE CRISIS. She lives in Texas.

ERROR

THE CRISIS erred in stating here last month that James H. Baker was no longer connected with the New York City Department of Welfare. Mr. Baker is one of the five colored administrators in the Department and THE CRISIS offers its apologies.

Jim Crow Challenged in Southern Universities

By Glenn Hutchinson

THE controversy regarding the admission of Negroes to the graduate and professional schools of southern universities became sharply focused when Miss Pauli Murray, a native of Durham, N. C., and a graduate of Hunter college, New York City, applied recently for admission to the graduate school of the University of North Carolina.

To those keenly interested in greater opportunity for the Negro in graduate and professional study in the South, the reaction to this application is significant for several reasons. First, Chapel Hill has achieved a reputation of being the leader of southern liberal thought. It was the first university in the South to adopt the sportsmanlike policy of raising no objection to playing against Negroes on northern football teams. Second, North Carolina is truly a southern state, while Maryland and Missouri, which have been forced by law to admit Negroes to their state university law schools, are not. They were excluded from the South on the basis of 200 cultural indices by Dr. Howard W. Odum in *Southern Regions*. Third, the North Carolina Constitution states clearly that separate schools must be maintained for white and Negro pupils but that there shall be "no discrimination."

At the present time there are no graduate and professional schools in North Carolina open to Negroes. Since the supreme court declared in the Gaines case that opportunity for such training must be provided by the state to all its residents "upon the basis of an equality of right," Governor Hoey recommended to the General Assembly in January that steps be taken to abide by that decision. "North Carolina does not believe in social equality between the races and will not tolerate mixed schools for the races, but, we do believe in equality of opportunity in their respective fields of science. . . . We have no provision for the education of Negroes in special courses of law, pharmacy or medicine. Because it is our duty as a State to make such provisions and in harmony with the supreme court decision in the Missouri case, I recommend that such courses as are deemed necessary and essential be established at the college in Durham. If added courses are required in agriculture or technology they should be provided at the A. and T. college at Greensboro. . . . My investigation leads me to believe that this arrangement can be made without the expenditure of a very large sum of money."

The South has been brought sharply to consider inequalities in education by the Supreme Court decision in the Gaines case. This author indicates that white Dixie young people are not a unit in opposing Negro attendance at state universities on the graduate level, although the dissenters from powerful tradition are, of course, in the minority

Governor Hoey either has a very low opinion of the graduate and professional schools of his own university, or is sadly mistaken in believing that anything approaching "equality of opportunity" can be provided "without the expenditure of a very large sum of money."

Legislature Gets Bill

However, a bill has been introduced in the Assembly by Walter Murphy, for 40 years a trustee of the University of North Carolina, to set up graduate courses at the two state Negro colleges, or in the event enrollment for any of these courses numbered under ten, to provide subsidy for the Negroes in out-of-state schools. The bill does not call for formal opening of a graduate school in the Negro colleges, but merely the opening of courses in law and pharmacy at the Durham institution, and agriculture and technology at the Greensboro college.

In spite of the fact that many liberal professors and students at the University have expressed themselves in favor of immediate admittance of Negroes to the graduate school, it is evident, as President Graham pointed out in his letter to Miss Murray, that North Carolina will stand by her own folkways and Constitution unless the state Constitution is over-ruled by the U. S. Supreme Court.

Having provided no graduate and professional courses for Negroes, the various southern states now find themselves required by law to either admit Negroes to their state universities or provide such work in Negro institutions. Those who are familiar with southern folkways realize that every other possible course will be exhausted before the color bar is taken down. Many of us in the South are anxious to see the Negro get real "equality of opportunity" fear that each state will set up a weak graduate school for Negroes and thus seek to satisfy the letter of the law. Any one who maintains that "equality of opportunity" can be assured by this method is, in my opinion, simply refusing to face facts. For instance, North Carolina is already one of eight states in the nation which spend more than half of their taxes for education. Other southern states with low per capita taxable wealth, are likewise burdened with a larger percentage of young people than any other section. It is fantastic to think that each state will double its present educational burden on the graduate and professional level.

It seems clear that the only two plausible solutions to the problem of providing graduate and professional schools for Negroes in the South are to admit them to existing schools or establish three or four regional centers for Negroes where something approaching adequate training can be offered. However, both law and custom make either of these solutions a difficult one. State Constitutions and southern traditions prohibit Negroes attending white schools, while the supreme court decision in the Gaines case specifies that out-of-state subsidies for Negro residents will not relieve a state of its obligation to provide graduate and professional training within its own borders. Since the establishing of regional Negro centers with the several states pooling their resources would not enable southern states to satisfy the letter of the law in the Gaines decision, it seems a remote possibility that they will take such steps out of pure generosity.

Students Discuss Admission

The problem has excited a great deal of discussion at the University of North Carolina. For several weeks after Miss Murray's application was received the

student daily was literally "crammed" with comments by students and faculty. Editor John Creedy devoted almost the entire February issue of the *Carolina Magazine* to the problem of graduate and professional training for Negroes in the South.

The lead article in the *Magazine* was written by Dean of Men James T. Taylor of the North Carolina College for Negroes. Dean Taylor was a member of the commission set up by the General Assembly in 1937 to study public schools and colleges for colored people in North Carolina. The commission recommended, "That courses leading to graduate and professional degrees be offered at the North Carolina College for Negroes in Durham, and that provision should be made in the fields of agriculture and technology for graduate and professional training at the Agricultural and Technical College at Greensboro." Dean Taylor declared: "Problems of this nature are never solved satisfactorily either by the extremely practical or the fanatically idealistic individuals, but by the individuals of social insight who look at a situation steadily and see it whole."

Dr. Howard W. Odum, head of the department of sociology at Chapel Hill and director of the Institute for Research in Social Science, suggested in the *Magazine* that the South "is an increasingly important and hopeful region of the nation. It is not possible that the South can forever go on being different in many fundamental aspects of life, and it cannot maintain an isolationist policy. The South, like other regions or nations, must seek to find an adequate and reasonable solution of its major problems and crises."

Declaring that "it is asking too much of a region to change over night the powerful folkways of long generations," Dr. Odum suggested the setting up of certain Negro centers of graduate education as an "approximate solution."

"Another approach is to have the states hypocritically authorize existing institutions, ill-equipped to do graduate work, to become training centers and characterize that as opportunity. Manifestly, this does no justice to southern ideals and statesmanship, Christianity and honor."

The simplest solution, according to Dr. Odum, would be "the gradual admission of well-equipped Negro students, tested by the same standards of preparation and equipment as are the whites, into selected professional and graduate schools, followed by a critical and progressive experimentation to the end that ultimate adjustments might be made." He added, however, that both law and custom make this course of action impossible at the present time.

W. T. Couch, head of the University of North Carolina Press and editor of *Culture in the South*, declared, "I do not believe any good would come from the admission of Negroes to the University; and if any situation should develop under which Negroes were admitted I think it is possible that extremely serious trouble might ensue."

Dett for Admission

Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, noted Negro composer of Bennett College, Greensboro, contributed an article in which he discussed several possible solutions and concluded:

"Apparently there is left but one alternative, and that is to admit Negroes to the white colleges of the South, and as Shakespeare says, 'Aye, there's the rub!'. But why should there be any 'rub'? Is not the rub largely, if not entirely, in the imagination of those who are in the habit of thinking there must or should be a rub somewhere when Negroes and whites have equal opportunities? What was rubbed off the white teacher who first taught Frederick Douglass, the great emancipator, or Booker T. Washington, the great educator, or Paul Laurence Dunbar, the great Negro poet? What was rubbed off the Iowa State College by its having graduated George Carver? What is being rubbed off the University of Boston by its having Roland Hayes on its faculty? What was rubbed off Harvard by its having graduated William Monroe Trotter or Oberlin by graduating John M. Langston, Minister Extraordinary to Haiti? Marian Anderson, Negro contralto, has a white accompanist—well, what of that? Instead of fostering hangovers from the past, is it not time that our southern white colleges proved that they are really doing a good job in education by helping their students to rub out the rub of race prejudice?"

In the same issue I pointed out the terrific discrimination toward Negro schools in the South in the matter of finances and suggested the only way to guarantee real "equality of opportunity" was to admit Negroes to our graduate and professional schools. A student denounced me in a letter to the *Daily Tar Heel* declaring a majority of his fellow North Carolinians would stick by "what their grandfathers fought for seventy years ago."

I am thankful that there are many native southerners, however, who are just as anxious to fight against race discrimination and race persecution as their grandfathers were to fight for slavery. I am glad that there are many who believe that the Negro should be treated with the respect and dignity due a human being instead of being repressed and "kept in his place."

Although several polls conducted at the university showed that the majority of students participating were against admitting Negroes to the graduate and professional schools of the university, many students expressed the conviction that simple justice required admitting them. (A poll conducted by the *Daily Tar Heel* among graduate students which showed a slight majority in favor of admitting Negroes was later repudiated by the paper as inaccurate.)

Some Students Willing

Ten graduate and professional students wrote the *Daily Tar Heel* that "We personally have no objection to the admission of Negroes to the graduate and professional schools of this University. We feel that the Negro as a citizen has every right to equal educational opportunities with every other group of citizens. Furthermore, we have no objection to attending class with any student who can measure up to the academic standards required for admission to that class. . . . What then, are the legislators to do? We believe it quite impossible for them to attempt to establish another separate school of the caliber of North Carolina. Financially, it would be impossible. Many legislators seems to think that already the state educational institutions are costing too much. And even if the funds were available, we are proud enough of North Carolina to feel lucky that we have one, not to speak of establishing a second. It has taken over a hundred years to make this university what it is. The Negroes cannot and should not wait that long. The only solution then, consistent with the Constitution of the United States is to allow the authorities to admit Negroes here."

Dr. Howard K. Beale, professor of history at the university and author of *Are American Teachers Free?*, wrote the *Daily Tar Heel*: "Most of us who know this university, especially those of us who know her reputation over the country, are proud of her tradition of liberalism that gives her prestige in the nation. This tradition has not been created by boasting of it in the abstract, but by successively meeting concrete issues as they arose in accordance with the best tenets of liberalism. The southern liberal, faced with the practical difficulties of the Negro in his midst, constantly faces a dilemma. . . . Yet the issue must be faced. Liberalism cannot be pursued in all categories and then denied whenever the Negro appears. Sooner or later southern liberals must choose between their liberalism and their own or their neighbor's emotions on the Negro."

Dr. Beale criticized the editor of the *Tar Heel* for inferring that Chapel Hill

would probably follow the example of the University of Virginia student body which went on strike because their school had permitted a Negro to register as a student. He protested "against the *Tar Heel's* assumption that this University should be influenced by the opinions of other institutions that have neither the fine traditions of liberalism even on non-racial issues nor the academic standards of this institution. . . . I wish to point out that there are among both faculty and students who feel it would be of value to our white students as well as to the Negro to admit Negroes at the graduate level, and that to exclude one properly qualified who has applied would endanger the university's leadership in liberalism."

Pattern Deeply Intrenched

The challenge to Jim-Crow traditions in southern universities has naturally precipitated controversy. Any direct attack on a societal pattern as deeply entrenched as this one must surely bring in its wake a great deal of reaction. I admire the courage and sincerity of those Negroes who are pressing the fight for real opportunity in this field, but I can also appreciate the difficulties against which they work.

When Miss Murray submitted her application to the graduate school she was not merely submitting it to President Graham and a few university officials. In reality she was submitting it to the South, and especially to the State of North Carolina. The university administration is powerless to follow a policy which is specifically prohibited by the Constitution of the State, unless it were in turn over-ruled by a higher court.

President Graham in his letter to Miss Murray, declared:

"If the State Constitution is not overruled by the United States Constitution, then the only way to change a provision in the state Constitution is by referendum of the people.

"The Negro leaders in this state and the white leaders who have been friends of the Negroes in the struggle for justice are strongly of the opinion that the most unfortunate thing that could happen at this time would be a popular referendum on the race issue. The possibilities of an interracial throwback do not have to be emphasized in our present world.

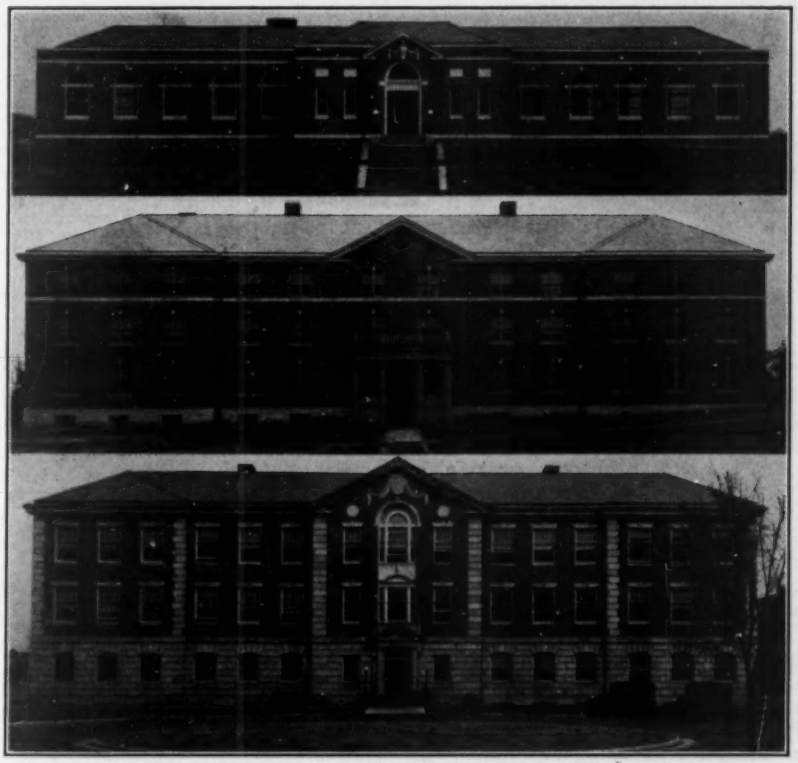
"Taking account of the Constitution of North Carolina, the decision of the United States Supreme Court and the clear intent of the legislature of North Carolina, I have pledged as far as my lawful responsibility permits, the cooperation of the University of North Carolina with the North Carolina College for Negroes and the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College for Negroes toward a more adequate provision for Negroes in the public schools, higher standard Negro undergraduate colleges, and a substantial beginning in the provision for graduate and professional work. This may seem to you to be an inadequate and minimum program, but it is going to take the cooperation and the struggle of us all to bring it to pass. The present alternative is a throwback against whose consequences we must unceasingly be on guard in the best interests of both races, who after all go up or down together.

"As you may know, I am under very bitter attack in some parts of North Carolina and the lower South for what little I have tried to do in behalf of Negro people, organized and unorganized workers and other under-privileged groups. I realize I am also subject to attack because I understand the limitations under which we must work in order to make the next possible advance."

Cooperation Greatest Need

I don't suppose there is any white southerner more anxious to see Jim Crow abolished in higher education than I. In the few opportunities I have had, in various interracial conferences, to live for a few days outside the caste system in which I was born and brought up, I realized how short-sighted and immature that system is. It would be of real benefit to white students, especially in sociology and other social sciences, to sit in the classroom with Negro students who can bring the touch of reality to our quest for understanding. Nothing would be more logical than to have Negroes in such courses as that on "The Negro" offered by the sociology department at Chapel Hill. Of course, the advantages to the Negro in increased opportunity for graduate and professional training would be tremendous. To contemplate the ideal, however, and overlook the rough and difficult path which leads to it, is to become ineffective. I like President Graham's phrase "the cooperation and the struggle of us all." It is particularly applicable in this situation. No matter which road is chosen it will take plenty of cooperation and plenty of struggle to reach the goal of real opportunity for the Negro.

North Carolina College for Negroes



Three buildings at the college in Durham. The state legislature is considering a bill to provide graduate and professional training at this institution while debate rages in North Carolina and throughout the South upon ways of meeting the U. S. supreme court's decision in the Gaines case

The Poll Tax—Enemy of Democracy

By Robert Smith

Abolition of the poll tax will benefit both whites and Negroes and bring democracy nearer in the South, this writer declares

THE voter poll tax, sold to the white people in the South as one sure-fire method of keeping the Negro away from the polls forever, is now only partially a racial question. With many other pseudo-legal or flagrantly illegal devices it serves to deprive colored people in eight southern states of the rights due them in a democracy. But it also deprives, in the eight states which still retain it, almost half the whites of expression at the polls.

Now it has become clearly an economic question as well as a racial one. Only a few years ago the Montgomery (Ala.) *Advertiser*, in protesting a move to repeal the poll tax, pointed out that to drop it would place the balance of political power in the hands of the "weakest and poorest" and that this was a power which "responsible citizens cannot afford to grant." In short, the poll tax is recognized by its supporters, no longer as a means of insuring white supremacy, but openly as an instrument for the perpetuation of government by the few.

In the last few years, the paradox of a fight by southern "representatives" against reforms which their constituents needed more than any other people in the country has stirred national interest in the South's 20% democracy. Southern politicos have contemplated with some surprise the fact that their scheme to insure white supremacy has brought about a strange equality between disfranchised white and disfranchised Negro.

In a closely documented survey of the effect of the poll tax on state and national elections, the Richmond (Va.) *Times-Dispatch* last year proved to its own satisfaction that Negroes were being kept away from the polls effectively enough without the poll tax. The *Southern Planter* has presented a similar argument. Other southern leaders have looked over the percentage tables and discovered that, in the poll tax states, the white unemployed, the white farmers, the white industrial workers, and the white lower middle-classes, were to a large extent deprived of the vote.

They found that, while in Alabama only 19% of the adult population voted in the 1936 presidential election, and in Virginia only 24%, in North Carolina, which has no poll tax, 50% of the adults went to the polls. Since the colored population of neither Alabama nor Virginia exceeds 36% of the total, it was clear that nearly half the whites of those two states had been denied the ballot.

Some "liberals" then took alarm. If they believed in white supremacy; they also believed in white democracy. In their outcry against the poll tax, they have been joined, as was to be expected, by some whose motives are less pure. Politicians sensitive to a shift in the tides, ex-officeholders in need of a following, saw in the masses of disfranchised whites possible support for their own ambitions.

Whites Want Change

But more significant, and far more relentless, is the pressure of the white masses themselves. A need for better relief standards, for establishment of the right to organize, for government support of studies to cure the evils of land tenure, for better education, for protection of the elemental civil liberties, has brought sharply home to these masses the fact that they have no part in their own government. In their labor unions and in their other organizations they have raised their voices to demand the rights their ancestors struggled to insure them. The real progressive white thinkers of the South have helped them to make their voices heard.

And blending with their voices now were those of the colored citizens of the nation, protesting against identical evils on the same grounds. For the whites in labor and farm organizations, this was no new experience. They had long before realized the identity of their interests with those of their colored neighbors. But to many of the disfranchised it was a really educating experience to find that, in the struggle for the most elementary of democratic rights, their natural allies were not the "big-shot" whites, but the Negroes.

Expression of this identity of interest was found not only in labor and farm organizations but in the much wider Southern Conference for Human Welfare, held last winter in Birmingham. Here representatives of colored organizations joined with progressive whites from all over the South—such men as Dr. Frank Graham, Dr. H. Clarence Nixon, and John Temple Graves II—in working out a program for common action, with the repeal of the poll tax as one of the major objectives.

It is true that even some of those who participated in the conference did later hint that repeal of the poll tax was not to be looked upon as a move to grant suffrage to Negroes; but this is no reason for colored people to avoid participating in the struggle. Whatever such lukewarm liberals may claim, there can be no doubt that the repeal of the poll tax is the necessary first step to the winning of complete democracy for Negro and white both.

The architects of the social structure in the South have sought out many inventions to rob the Negro of his vote. Where the threat of physical violence is deemed too crude, as in some of the larger cities, there are sly and intricate questionnaires designed to confuse and discourage the Negro voter and leave to some white official the decision as to whether the question has been properly handled or the constitution properly "interpreted." Registration requirements have been made purposely onerous. Readers of THE CRISIS are undoubtedly familiar with the many dodges of doubtful legality which raise a high fence between the Negro and the ballot box in the South.

Poll Tax Vulnerable

But it must already be clear that, of these many devices, the poll tax is most vulnerable. It is also the most important. For repeal of the poll tax, even where it would not immediately put in the hands of colored citizens the right to choose their representatives, would enfranchise large masses of white farmers and industrial workers who have already learned that they must look to the colored people for their staunchest allies.

As they endeavor to use the ballot to win a better way of life, to strengthen the wages and hours bill, to abolish the southern "differential", to pass a more equitable cotton program, in general to lift the living standards of those who work in the farms, mills, factories, and offices of the South, these white masses cannot fail to appreciate more and more the need for granting wider suffrage to the Negroes.

(*Continued on page* 114)

Music for 50 Million People

A full symphonic orchestra will render daily the music written by William Grant Still at the New York World's Fair

MILLIONS of visitors to the New York World's Fair 1939, which throws open its gates April 30, will view and pass through the Theme Center—the towering Trylon and huge Perisphere—symbol of the Fair throughout the world.

The music for this Theme Center—heart of the Fair—has been written by the brilliant young Negro composer, William Grant Still.

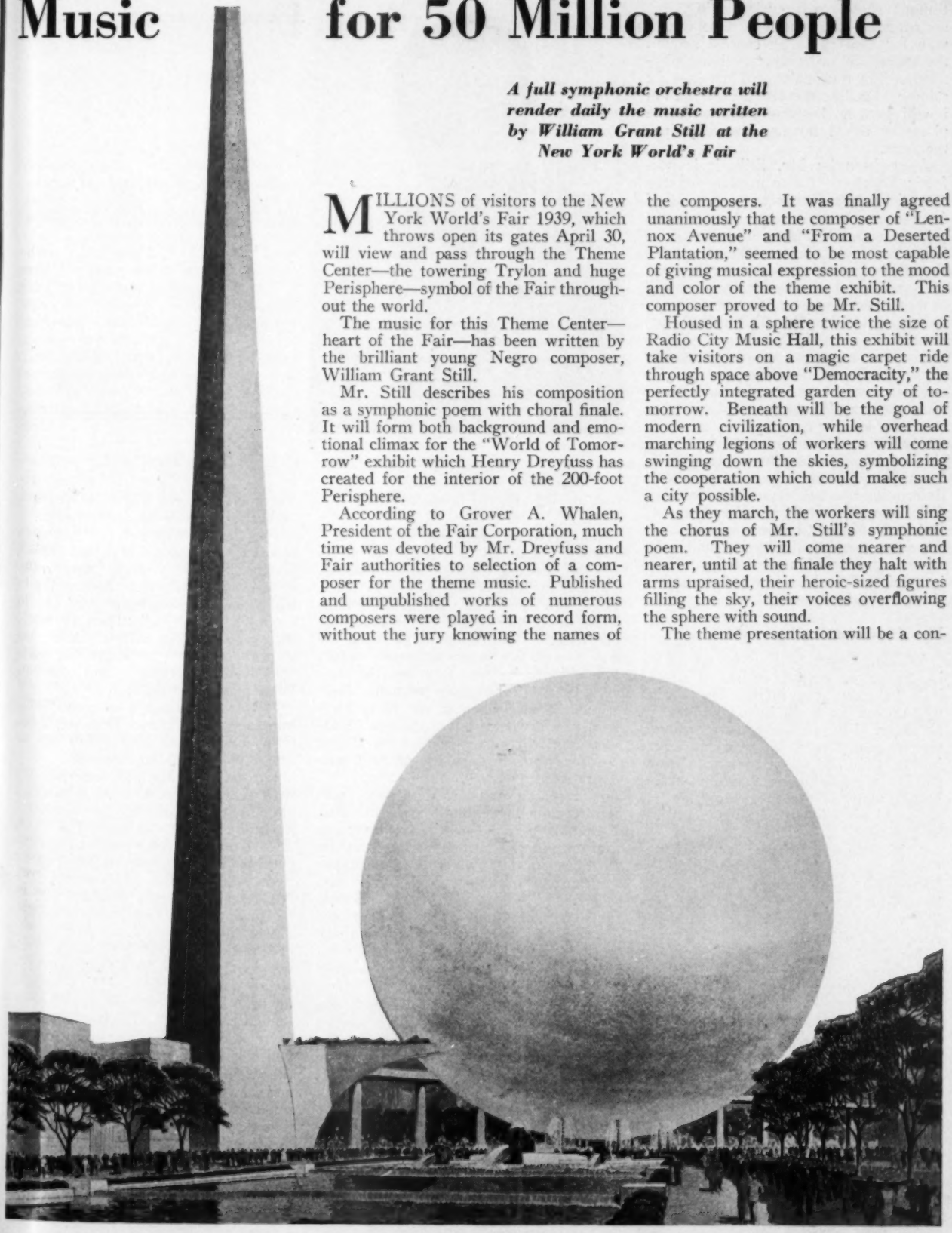
Mr. Still describes his composition as a symphonic poem with choral finale. It will form both background and emotional climax for the "World of Tomorrow" exhibit which Henry Dreyfuss has created for the interior of the 200-foot Perisphere.

According to Grover A. Whalen, President of the Fair Corporation, much time was devoted by Mr. Dreyfuss and Fair authorities to selection of a composer for the theme music. Published and unpublished works of numerous composers were played in record form, without the jury knowing the names of the composers. It was finally agreed unanimously that the composer of "Lennox Avenue" and "From a Deserted Plantation," seemed to be most capable of giving musical expression to the mood and color of the theme exhibit. This composer proved to be Mr. Still.

Housed in a sphere twice the size of Radio City Music Hall, this exhibit will take visitors on a magic carpet ride through space above "Democracity," the perfectly integrated garden city of tomorrow. Beneath will be the goal of modern civilization, while overhead marching legions of workers will come swinging down the skies, symbolizing the cooperation which could make such a city possible.

As they march, the workers will sing the chorus of Mr. Still's symphonic poem. They will come nearer and nearer, until at the finale they halt with arms upraised, their heroic-sized figures filling the sky, their voices overflowing the sphere with sound.

The theme presentation will be a con-



tinuous show, each cycle lasting just six minutes—the length of time it will take for visitors to be carried around the sphere on two great revolving platforms. The music also will last just six minutes, but like the visual presentation it will have no beginning nor end, one phase or mood flowing naturally into the next.

As written by Mr. Still, it is perfectly keyed to the continuity of the rest of the show, expressing in musical form each change in the cycle, which represents a telescoping of twenty-four hours. During the daylight period the theme is sprightly, expressing a "metropolitan mood." As dusk falls the mood changes, recalling first the tranquility of man's home life, then his cultural pursuits, then the gaiety of night life, a warm theme which sets the stage for the final chorus. Variations on this final chorus are woven throughout the piece, holding it together and giving it a tightly-knit unity.

Mr. Still disclosed that he composed the work at his home in Hollywood from a time sheet and from written descriptions of the theme exhibit. His first meeting with Mr. Dreyfuss and Robert D. Kohn, Chairman of the Fair's Theme Committee, was last fall. Its recording for use in the exhibit will be by a full symphony orchestra and a chorus of 1,000 vôices.

Courtesy Opportunity

WILLIAM GRANT STILL

His music will be heard by the millions who will visit the New York World's Fair

Has Classical Background

William Grant Still at the age of 43 has gained recognition as one of America's foremost composers. He is also well-known as a conductor and as an arranger. Like so many of the younger modern composers, he won his spurs in the field of popular music before gaining recognition as a serious artist. Unlike many of them, however, he has equipped himself with a sound classical background.

Critics consider that he is representative of the American composer of the future, who will combine fine classical knowledge with a feeling for the jazz idiom to produce works of authentic American quality.

Mr. Still was born in Mississippi but spent most of his early years in Arkansas and Ohio. His father, William Grant Still, Sr., who died shortly after he was born, provided him with his musical inheritance. His mother, Mrs. Carrie Sambro Still, who was a teacher of high school literature, (she taught in Little Rock for many years) wanted him to become an educator and planned to send him to Oxford eventually.

She got him as far as Wilberforce College in Ohio, but there his musical instincts gained the upper hand. He "squandered" his allowance on musical books, which he read in classes, refused to study and had such a poor record that he was finally flunked out of college.

On his own, then, he went to Columbus, got a job in a poolroom at $6 a week, later played in dance hall bands. Finally, by dint of not eating as much as he wanted and of a small inheritance from his father when he reached his majority, he was able to do what he wanted—go to Oberlin and study music. While there he was awarded the university's first scholarship in music. Subsequently he studied at the New England Conservatory under George Chadwick and for three years with Edgar Varese, who, he says, taught him self-expression.

Varese, an extreme modernist, was nevertheless big enough to realize that his pupils' talents lay in other directions and encouraged him to seek expression in music for his own racial inheritance rather than to ape the mode of the day.

Mr. Still considers that Sophie Tucker granted him his first real chance to show what he could do when she gave him the job of orchestrating the music for her acts. He also worked for a time with W. C. Handy in Memphis and says he thinks he made the first band arrangement of Handy's famous "St. Louis Blues." One of the first persons he looked up on his trip to New York was Handy, and Handy accompanied him on his visit to Fair headquarters.

Arranger for Whiteman

The composer can play almost any instrument in an orchestra (including the saxophone "very badly"), and when "Shuffle Along," first and most famous of Negro revues, took Broadway by storm a dozen years ago, he was in the orchestra pit playing the oboe.

His talent for rich orchestrations, however, soon graduated him from the pit and lifted him to the front rank of Broadway arrangers. Before long he was doing the orchestrations for Earl Carroll's "Vanities," "Rain or Shine," the second "Americana" and other shows. He was arranger for radio's "Deep River Hour" and for Paul Whiteman's orchestra.

It was Whiteman who commissioned him to write "From a Deserted Plantation," and it was also Whiteman who first took him to Hollywood.

On the coast Mr. Still has done work with Warner Brothers and with Columbia Pictures, where he worked as musical adviser for a time. He has conducted the Los Angeles Symphony Orchestra in the Hollywood Bowl and the Federal Orchestra in San Francisco. Next week he will conduct the San Diego Symphony Orchestra in that city.

For the last two years Mr. Still has had a Guggenheim Fellowship, which was awarded him originally so that he could write "Blue Steel," a three-act opera. The fellowship has been extended twice, each time for half a year.

In addition to "Lennox Avenue," which he was commissioned to write for the Columbia Broadcasting Company, and "From a Deserted Plantation," his published works include "Africo-American Symphony"; "Symphony in G Minor"; "Sahdji," an African ballet; "La Guiablesse," a ballet based on a legend of Martinique, and "Kaintuck," a composition for piano and orchestra for which he was commissioned by the League of Composers.

The Coon Hunt

By Thelma Rea Thurston

JOEL didn't know how long he had been aware of the baying of hounds, but suddenly it seemed that they were just outside the yard of his Uncle Tate Mosby's house, and his cousin, Lil Tate, was wide awake, shaking him and shouting, "C'mon, c'mon, Joel! Thar's a-goin' to be a coon hunt, and Pa sed I could bring you 'long."

"A coon hunt?" Thirteen-year-old Joel Smith rubbed his eyes sleepily. Since coming to Mena to spend the summer, he had observed a lot of queer Arkansas customs, but this was the first time he had been aroused from a pleasant slumber to go on a coon hunt. He looked at the radium face of his wrist watch. It was a quarter past three.

"A coon hunt?" he repeated. "What's a coon hunt?"

"Git yore clothes on, 'n' c'mon an' you'll see." Lil Tate grinned in anticipation. "You ain't never seen nothin' like it, I'll bet."

He hurried into his shirt, putting it on wrong-side-out. "Hurry Joel," he cried. "All the fun'll be over by the time we git thar."

Outside the house, Lil Tate cut across the Mosby garden patch, leading Joel eastward in the direction from whence came the deep baying tones of the hounds.

"Gawd, listen at them haounds," Lil Tate breathed, "they mus' be almos' on him. C'mon, this is goin' to be good." With his long, freckled face thrust forward and his unkempt, red hair blowing back, his cousin reminded Joel of one of the hounds. Momentarily, it seemed to him that Lil Tate must stop short and bay long and mournfully.

Soon Joel began to wonder wearily if all coon hunts were so long and led over so many rocky hills and so many almost impassable stretches of marsh land and thickly wooded gullies. After what was only an hour and twenty minutes, but seemed an eternity, they were still far behind the baying hounds, and Lil Tate was still urging Joel on.

"You don't wanta miss this'n. It war ol' Shiner Brooks' gal, Nannie, who tol' 'bout it; an' Shiner's up thar in front with the haoun's. I wouldn't miss this'n for anything. Hurry up! You don't wanta miss this'n!"

Still the hunt for the elusive coon seemed to Joel without any reason. It might have been fun to traverse the same route in the daytime and at a more moderate pace. But he was getting tired.

Despite the fact that they had hounds, the hunters apparently did not know where to look for their quarry. Once they stopped to pound on the door of an isolated Negro cabin. When an old, colored man came to the door, one of the men in the hunting crowd knocked him down with the butt of his gun.

Lil Tate laughed as if it were a part of the sport. Joel was not near enough to hear the men's conversation with the old man, but the act appeared cruel and unnecessary. Trying to keep up with Lil Tate in the boulder-and-stump-filled darkness, Joel reflected on the way he saw his uncle and other men in the vicinity of Mena treat the colored people. In the hilly, back-country areas, he had seen them treated as if they were without human feelings. He wondered if it had been a part of the coon hunt to awaken the old, colored man and knock him down when he opened his cabin door. He asked Lil Tate, but that young man just redoubled his panting speed.

Joel was aware that the baying of the hounds was becoming more frenzied, and the shouts of the men more excited. Somewhere ahead of him, several shots were fired in quick succession.

The breath of Lil Tate, climbing a hill ahead of Joel, was coming in panting gasps. "They mus' have him almos' treed by now. My Gawd, ef you don't hurry, we'll miss everythin'!"

Joel thought of the poor, pursued animal somewhere ahead of them, out there in the East, where darkness was beginning to give way to dawn. It must be terrible to be a fugitive for so long, he thought—half the night and into the morning. Somehow—he kept thinking—that hunted creature ought to welcome the end. Surely, anything would be better than the awful suspense of being always just inches ahead of the hounds. Joel felt that he could not have endured it.

THEN, without realizing how he knew it, the young northerner sensed that the hunt was over, that the hounds had closed in and that the object of the bloodthirsty host of men was at their mercy. Perhaps it was the excited yell that burst from Lil Tate's throat just as all the hounds lifted their voices together in a high, doleful cry. Or perhaps it was another sound—a shrill, suffering, human scream that rose above Lil Tate's excited outburst, above the hounds cries, above the vicious voices of the men. A sound that rose higher and higher until it seemed to go on past the twinkling morning star and to pierce the celestial blue beyond.

As he heard that sound, Joel felt that he could not go on and witness the end of the coon hunt. There was something human in that shrill, piercing cry, something that made him wish that he had never come on the hunt, or, indeed, that he had never left the hustling sanity of his northern home town for the dull confusion of the Arkansas backwoods.

Just beyond a hill several feet ahead of the two boys, the underbrush gave way to a small copse, from the center of which came sounds that unmistakably indicated the end of the hunt. The coppice was slightly thicker at the edge by which the boys approached it than at its center. In the middle of the thicket a group of men and hounds milled around a bonfire which threw weird shadows on the ground behind them. Nearing the fire-lit clearing, Joel seemed to see the men for the first time. He was aware of things he had not noticed before: their drunken laughter, their slinking, furtive movements, their coarse talk and swearing. Several of the men had bottles in their hip pockets. Occasionally, there was a flash of amber as a bottle was raised to blasphemous lips. Some of the men held rifles, and many were armed only with heavy sticks and clubs.

Joel was almost at the center of the thicket when he looked past the smoking end of the rifle held by his uncle. A lone hound crouched on the ground, nose pointed upward, baying mournfully at something in the branches above him. For a sickening instant, Joel looked up into the branches. When he turned away to look into Lil Tate's grinning face, he was sick to his stomach.

"Aw, shucks," Lil Tate lamented, "we missed the best part of it. They've done it already."

As if urged by some magnetic force, Joel turned again to look at the object in the branches above the lone hound. For an unforgettable moment, he stared, fascinated at what he saw there. He could not see quite all of it, but he saw enough: above the mournful, crouching hound, above the leaping flames of the bonfire, two black feet dangled grotesquely from the legs of a pair of blue denim overalls. One of the bruised feet had a wound where there should have been a big toe, and there were no nails on any of the remaining toes. High up

(*Continued on page* 120)

Talladega Library: Weapon Against Caste

By Buell G. Gallagher

The new Savery Library at Talladega College will be dedicated April 15-16, a century after the founding of the American Missionary Association and its program for Negro education

THE Negro in America has traditionally been forced by circumstance to choose between two equally unattractive possibilities. He has had his choice between servitude and rebellion, neither of which he has particularly relished. These alternatives which have customarily been opened to the Negro American are illustrated by the *Amistad* incident. Ninety-nine years ago, a Portuguese vessel, the *Amistad* (meaning "Amity" or "Friendship"), one of the last of the slavers, carried an illicit cargo of thirty-nine intended slaves who decided that between the alternatives of slavery and mutiny they would choose desperate effort. They succeeded. The captive helmsman was ordered to put about and steer for Africa; but by adroit seamanship he ultimately anchored in Long Island Sound. Promptly clapped in jail, the thirty-eight surviving mutineers were charged with capital crimes and were in danger of their lives. A group of Yale professors, Congregational ministers, and laymen of means interested themselves in the defense of the mutineers.

This internationally famous case, which was the "Scottsboro Case" of the past century, resulted in ultimate victory for the defense and in the repatriation of the Africans. Out of this great struggle to defend the Negro from the consequences of the desperate alternative American society pressed upon him, grew the American Missionary Association, the mother of Talladega College. During the ninety-nine years since the *Amistad* incident, America has resisted the struggle to open a door to some better choice than the damning dilemma of a century ago—slavery or mutiny.

In the centennial year of this struggle, America may well take stock of her progress in the democratic treatment of her Number One Minority. A century ago, the alternative before the Negro was acquiescence or revolt. Despite much real progress in some areas, the situation has not greatly changed. The avenue of constructive citizenship has never been freely opened, even in our own day. It is mainly "For Whites Only." And it is precisely at this point of discrimination against a vital minority that we put our finger on the testing point of American democracy. No one any longer expects an authoritarian or totalitarian state to be considerate of its minorities. But we do expect something different from a democracy. The task before us is, therefore, an imperative one, a morally imperative one. We must find and use every possible means of so influencing the flow of American life that all its peoples are enabled to move forward constructively. We must break the vise which has for so long held one-tenth of our people between its vicious alternatives. We must find a third way out for the Negro—the way of constructive citizenship.

Caste System Intrenched

Certainly, no single college can expect to move the huge bulk of America's millions any appreciable distance. Not even all one hundred of the Negro colleges acting in concert could expect to make a great dent on the wall of caste which rim us round. But by every bit of courageous thinking and intelligent acting, the day of hope is brought one step nearer; and the quiet contagion of continuing example may in the end prove to be the lever which loosens the forces of social clannishness, of snobbery, and of false racial pride which still hold together the crumbling fabric of American caste barriers.

When the American Missionary Association began its work following the *Amistad* mutiny of a century ago, it set its face against "the sins of slaveholding, polygamy, and caste." Today, slaveholding is a thing of the past. Polygamy exists only in serial form, through the divorce courts. But caste is more firmly entrenched, more deeply imbedded, more dominantly tyrannical than it was a century ago. This is not a sectional matter. The caste system of race relationships is rapidly becoming the dominant pattern in all sections of the nation. The very magnitude of the task therefore compels us to use well every tool at hand, even the sometimes seemingly puny tool of academic life.

This means, at Talladega at any rate, that our whole task is oriented with a view to modifying the caste structure. We aim to equip the student, through his actual experience at the college, so that he becomes able both to live successfully in spite of the differential of caste, and to know how and where to set to work to transform the caste system.

Now, it's no use trying to make bricks without straw, not if the bricks are to be used in rearing the new social structure. We need the very best brick which excellent materials and conscientious workmanship can fabricate. Everything about the college must therefore be just a little bit *better* than in the average

The new Savery Library at Talladega

American college. Nothing can be "good enough." It is not good enough for a supremely difficult job unless it is the very best ingenuity and courage can give us. I do not say "the best that money can buy" because we have long since learned that those of us who believe in social justice cannot expect great sums of money to be showered upon us. With certain noteworthy exceptions, like the General Education Board and the Julius Rosenwald Fund (which are both liquidating), and the Carnegie Corporation which continues, philanthropic agencies and individuals have not been overly anxious to underwrite pioneering efforts to find the third way out. The college has to make a little money go a long way. Indeed, the most fitting totem for Talladega would be the kangaroo. It goes so far on an empty pocket!

Dedication in April

But when we do get a little money, we get it for a real purpose and put it to work. The General Education Board offered $65,000 toward a new library building provided we could match it. We did. And on April 15th and 16th, the new structure is to be dedicated. It is an interracial venture from start to finish. Edward S. Harkness gave $25,000. The balance was given by more than eight hundred individuals and groups of both races scattered all over the country, although most of it came from northern white churches.

The construction has likewise been a demonstration of interracial progress. The builder is Joseph Fletcher, Negro, a graduate of Talladega College. Under his direction, artisans and craftsmen of both races have erected one of the finest structures in the entire South. Entirely of fireproof construction, from its concrete foundations and brick walls to its steel girders, gypsum floors and slate roof, the building will stand indefinitely; and it will stand as a monument to the cooperative capacities of men of both races who worked to make it real.

So, too, with the naming of the structure. William Savery was a slave carpenter who labored to build Old Swayne Hall in 1852. In 1865, a freedman, with others he founded the first school for Negroes in Talladega County. In 1867, a man of vision, he led the Freedmen's Bureau and the American Missionary Association in the purchase of Old Swayne Hall and the founding of Talladega College. In 1869, a trustee and incorporator of Talladega College, he builded for the generations to come. What happier choice for a name for Talladega's finest structure than to call it "Savery Library?"

(*Continued on page* 126)

Hale Woodruff working on murals for the library

Tuberculosis Among Negroes

By Elaine Ellis

A timely discussion of the great scourge just before Negro Health Week

TUBERCULOSIS today claims only about one-fifth as many lives annually, in proportion to the population, as it did in 1900. Changes in society, with emphasis on hygiene and sports, is partly responsible for the decline. But the major credit goes to our twentieth century knowledge of methods for the prevention and treatment of this disease. No case is considered hopeless except in the very last stages.

But this decline is chiefly among the white race. With all of the life-giving means at our disposal, the mortality level for the Negro race is approximately what it was for the white race more than twenty-five years ago.[1] It is shocking to note that a race which has a much higher percentage of the disease is held to an economic level favoring its incidence, and that this people is largely denied the benefit of all the modern methods that science has given to humanity with which to fight it. How this has worked to the detriment of both races will be explained later.

To best understand the problem, we must first consider the two races as a whole in tracing the causes of the disease. Tuberculosis is most frequently developed between the ages of eighteen and twenty-eight. Practically every individual takes into his body the tubercle bacillus at some time during his life as the result of contact with a person having the disease in an infectious stage. This first invasion usually occurs at an early age, the bacilli generally locating in a lung. When the physical condition is poor, infection may result. However, it usually heals. This is called the childhood type of tuberculosis, though adults who acquire a first infection may also have it.

Children who get a second infection may develop the adult type of tuberculosis, which feeds on the lungs. Reinfection may be caused in any individual by the breakdown of tissue that is incompletely healed, thus releasing the bacilli to continue their destructive work.

Pleurisy, lassitude, loss of weight, temperature, and a cough may be symptoms of tuberculosis, though an infected person does not necessarily have these symptoms. For this reason, a person may be in an advanced, and dangerous, stage of the disease before he is found to have it. Physical examination, the X-Ray, and an sputum analysis are the means used by physicians to detect its presence. While bed rest is the fundamental method used to arrest the course of the infection, surgical methods of resting the lung by collapsing it are used in the more advanced stages.

Economic Factors

Back of worry and physical debility, which provides such a favorable reception for tuberculosis, there are economic factors so vicious that one can readily understand why it is considered to be a class disease. Conditions placing the body at a physical disadvantage are to be found in every stratum of our population. But malnutrition, poor housing, bad working conditions, and lack of medical attention are to be found only in the lower-income groups. A survey prepared by President Roosevelt's Interdepartmental Committee for the National Health Conference revealed that twice as many deaths from the ten major diseases, including tuberculosis, occur among the poor as among those having an income of $1,000 or more per year. Unskilled workers have the highest incidence of tuberculosis; and as the wage levels rise, the disease is found on the decline.

The majority of the Negro population is found in this lower economic group, which has the greatest incidence of tuberculosis. To explain the high mortality rate of the Negro, various theories have been offered. Infection of African Negroes by white people and lack of racial resistance have been suggested. Pathologists declare that racial or environmental variations may cause difficulty in an early diagnosis in some cases. But a number of Negro sciologists and writers insist that the inferior position to which their race is subjected is responsible. Victim of racial discrimination as well as the class competition from which it arises, the Negro is forced to the lowest economic level, where bad living conditions breed the disease.

His opportunity to enter a sanatorium is limited. No more glaring example can be given than that of the situation in Chicago, where Negroes comprise one-ninth of the city's population. The Negro population contributes 30 per cent of the known cases of tuberculosis. According to Carl Harris, the only Negro hospital in that city cannot cope with the disease; and it is forced to refer its cases to the public institutions, Cook County Hospital and the Municipal Tuberculosis Sanatorium.[2] Harris reported that physicians at the county hospital insisted that they do not have proper facilities for treating the disease. "Patients are practically left to die there and rarely does one come out alive," Harris said.

The Municipal Tuberculosis Sanatorium, which is supported by a quarter of a million dollars annually, was given an equally bad rating in the investigation made by Harris. "Thousands of Negroes throughout the city cough and shiver with TB until they die in some South Side slum, waiting to get into the institution," he stated. "The 'waiting list' is several months long . . . unless you have a political drag." Harris reported that though the physician in charge denied that there is any discrimination against the Negroes, doctors and nurses said that the sanatorium never has more than a dozen Negro patients at a time though it has 1,200 beds. The sanatorium is under a special Municipal Tuberculosis Association instead of the Board of Health.

The discrimination that operates against the Negro in the matter of his hospitalization continues to work against him after he leaves the sanatorium. Because of the economic level to which he is held, he has little opportunity of choosing work that will enable him to become a wage earner again without the danger of a relapse. Almost invariably, he is compelled to return to unskilled labor.

High Mortality Rate

It is not surprising, then, that the mortality rate is higher for the Negro. In the South, where conditions are especially bad, the high tuberculosis mortality for the Negro population is held to be responsible for the fact that this section has a higher average than

(*Continued on page* 125)

[1] National Tuberculosis Association: *A Five-Year Study of Tuberculosis Among Negroes*, p. 11. New York, 1937.

[2] Carl Harris, *The Midwest Daily Record*, June [illegible] 1938.

Editorials

Editor, ROY WILKINS
Advisory Board: J. E. Spingarn, Dr. Louis T. Wright, Lewis Gannett, Walter White

A New South in the Making

ONE of the valuable dividends from the supreme court's decision in the University of Missouri case is the encouragement given the liberal white minority in the South to express itself. A new South is in the making. The young men and women of Dixie give every evidence that their minds are not to be closed as tightly on racial, political and economic questions as were those of their fathers and grandfathers. The discussions which have been going on at the University of North Carolina and in the press of that state and of Virginia show an appreciation of existing inequalities and a desire to take definite steps to correct the evils. Elsewhere in the South there is a similar trend.

The racial folkways of the South are stubborn. They cannot be uprooted overnight. But that does not mean that problems cannot be faced squarely and honestly on both sides, with no hypocrisy from whites and no fawning opportunism from Negroes.

Keep Politics Out

ALL was well, apparently, with the Southern Tenant Farmer's Union concentrated largely in Eastern Arkansas, until someone tried to inject political ideologies into an already sufficiently difficult situation. The union had got a good start with an unheard of organization of white and black sharecroppers and tenant farmers into the same union without a color line. Here was a situation where the traditional trade union tactics had to be modified, not only because the members were unaccustomed to them, but because the employing planters had not only the hostility and weapons traditional with employers everywhere, but they had the additional dynamite of a delicate racial problem.

The STFU leaders understood all this and asked merely to be let alone to work out their problems while maintaining an affiliation with a larger CIO union. But the STFU charges that some of the leaders in the larger CIO group wanted to seize control for the Communists. Their offices were declared vacant and a new convention ordered by the CIO. The STFU retaliated by withdrawing from the CIO, calling a convention to ratify the decision, and receiving unanimous endorsement of their procedure from 109 locals.

This fight is tremendously important to the Negro and white farm workers in the South. The main problem is to improve the lot of these workers and to dispel the age-old bugaboo of race which has balked their unity and mutual progress. Anyone who injects any political party line into this effort is sabotaging both the cause of labor and of sound, interracial peace and progress.

For Mayor: Maverick

MAURY MAVERICK, former congressman from Texas, is running for mayor of San Antonio. During his stormy career in Washington Maverick became known as the one dependable liberal among the southerners. He recognized the broad problems of our nation, refusing to allow his vision to be limited by sectional prejudices, or racial or economic bugaboos.

He was the only southern congressman to vote for the Gavagan federal anti-lynching bill. Not only did he vote for it, but he made a speech on the floor of the House in support of it.

Furthermore, when the Wages and Hours bill was under discussion, it was Maverick who made a short speech against differentials based on race. On all economic questions before Congress Maverick was on the side that would benefit the great masses of the American people—the poor people, and Negroes are included in these latter. For these two acts alone, Maverick ought to have the vote of every enfranchised Negro in San Antonio. Our voting weight must be thrown steadily with the progressive candidates everywhere. They, like Maverick, are fighting the broad questions which affect every Negro and every poor white man. We stand to gain more with them in the end than we do with those who promise they will fight for us on a racial basis.

In fact, the records of those who "love the Negro" are such that we should avoid them as we would a plague. Maverick, for instance, did not rise in Congress, as did Weaver of North Carolina, and tell a hypocritical, near-tearful tale of affection for his dear black mammy. Even if he had not voted for the anti-lynching bill and stood against racial differentials in wages and for adequate relief for all people regardless of color, THE CRISIS is inclined to think he deserves a medal and votes for not faking a regard for Negroes publicly while privately cutting the race's throat.

Never? No, Never!

THE state legislature of South Carolina has been advised by the esteemed editorial writers on the Charleston *News and Courier* not to establish a law school for Negroes or appropriate one cent for that purpose. The boys behind the typewriters advocate a thumbing of the nose at the supreme court decision in the University of Missouri case, saying in effect, "if this be defying the federal government, then let's defy it—and meet this issue as our fathers did before us."

Lovely, tender, virtuous, unblemished South Carolina may be poor, suh, (and ignorant) but Rudolph Roosevelt Rassendale shall not have the child for all his wealth (New Deal bribes) or city (progressive) sophistication. Never!

Practical Fighter

LAST year Dr. J. H. Sebree died in Indiana. During his lifetime Dr. Sebree took time off from his medical practice to think about the plight of his race and work for its advancement. Many years ago he was president of one of the branches of the N.A.A.C.P. in Kentucky and supported the association as well as he could both with money and service. When he died he left $3,000 in his will for the work of the N.A.A.C.P.

He was a practical man, an intelligent fighter. He realized that as problems multiply, only organizations with adequate funds can carry on successful battles. The days of the individual Davids battling the Goliaths of Prejudice and Proscription are over. There are hundreds of colored men and women who could do as Dr. Sebree has done. They could contribute more than a dollar a year or five dollars a year to fight for civil rights. In their wills, even with families and other charities to consider, they could leave at least $100 to the N.A.A.C.P.—many could leave more than this sum.

The great battles for civil liberties cost money. The sweetest and most satisfying victories are those paid for by the beneficiaries. Not so much for the sake of the N.A.A.C.P. as for the self-respect of the race should the Dr. Sebrees be multiplied a hundred-fold.

Poll Tax

(*Continued from page* 106)

Even with the ballot in their hands, these white people are going to seek Negro support. Where else will they find voices and votes to fight the ills of the South's semi-feudal system? The people that suffer most sharply from the defects of southern economy are obviously the Negroes. It is they who will struggle most earnestly to correct the system.

It was once possible perhaps to persuade the white farmer or the jobless white worker that his greatest enemy was the Negro, who "could live on less" and would "drive him off the land." Unionization and the complete breakdown of the sharecropping system have brought to the white worker a better understanding of the cause of his ills. He is beginning to appreciate the need for racial cooperation to enable those who live in the South to get a better share of the wealth the South produces.

Labor organizations once organized on a Jim Crow basis now bring whites and Negroes into the same locals. The Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union, which was established in Texas in 1902, and has long been under white leadership, now has a large Negro membership in the South and carries on a continued struggle to win for its Negro members equal rights and fair treatment in their dealings with landlords.

These people, then, who know the value of racial cooperation, will be the first to seek the abolition of the remaining schemes which rob the Negro of his vote. The poll tax is the chink in the armor of Jim Crowism. Repeal of the poll tax will bring nearer the day when the whole country will grant full citizenship rights to its colored inhabitants.

Voting Efficiency

How sharp an increase in voting power will be created in the South by repeal of the tax may be appreciated quickly by a glance at the voting efficiency tables. In the eight poll tax states, these are the percentages of adult citizens who voted in the 1936 presidential election:

Tennessee	31%	Georgia	19%
Texas	25%	Arkansas	17%
Virginia	24%	Mississippi	16%
Alabama	19%	South Carolina	13%

The voting efficiency for the remaining forty states was 68%. These figures are based on 1935 census estimates.

Florida, which repealed the poll tax in 1937, experienced a gain of 100,000 votes in the subsequent senatorial primary.

The whole nation is being awakened to the dangers of this denial of democracy in the South. People who have long accepted the disfranchisement of the Negro as a rather unfortunate but immutable law of nature are beginning now to recognize it as a cornerstone for dictatorship. They can clearly see now that the power which denies democratic rights to one group of citizens for their color can also deny them to other groups because of their economic status.

The poll tax is an odious form of impost, hated through the centuries as a mark of serfdom. It has been abandoned in Europe except in a few small and backward countries. But it is still strongly established in the South, as the recent campaign for repeal in Arkansas indicated. Perhaps it was to be expected that an attempt to repeal it through act of the state electorate would be defeated. The people upon whom the tax bears most heavily are denied, of course, the right to vote for its repeal. Those who might favor its repeal are reminded that the revenue it brings is used for educational purposes and are made to fear that even the scanty facilities the state now affords would be diminished if the tax were done away with.

Revenue Idea Exploded

But experience shows that it is not designed for revenue purposes. In Virginia, where the levy is $1.50 a year on every voter, with arrears cumulative over a period of three years, no strong effort is ever made to collect delinquent poll taxes. Here, as indeed in every country which has used it, it is a measure of oppression, as effective as an armed force. Like an excise tax on whisky or cigarettes, it has for its purpose the discouragement of the use of the thing taxed.

Indeed if the tax were not made a voting requirement, if the citizens could not avoid it by simply neglecting to vote, it would produce many times its present revenue.

The poll tax is an encouragement to corruption, as long as it remains tied to the ballot. The faction with the most money is always tempted to pay up the taxes of large sections of the electorate and vote them in herds.

No, there is no argument in favor of the poll tax, except the argument which the Montgomery *Advertiser* presented three years ago and which has already been mentioned. This year, the *Advertiser*, in the face of a new move to free the ballot in Alabama of this restriction, has modified its stand a little.

It is, then, franky and avowedly a device to destroy democracy, a relic of feudalism, an instrument of dictatorship. Honest believers in democracy, colored and white, should unite to abolish it forever.

Southern Aid's Assets Nearing Million Mark

Policyholders (investors for immediate and future security), like depositors in banks, are not only protected by the rigid Federal and State laws and frequent examinations of the companies, but by the requirement that companies publish annually the essential or important features of their accounts and stewardship. These policyholders and the public can, therefore, readily appraise the value of the securities behind their policies.

The Southern Aid Society of Va., Inc., the oldest existing Negro legal reserve insurance company, was a pioneer among such companies in publishing its financial standing. Conforming to this very necessary procedure, it is displaying in another section of The Crisis its 46th annual financial report. Readers who have followed this company's history, and especially its financial status, will readily note that during 1938 the company made remarkable progress as is indicated in the growth of its assets. Among the notable improvements shown in the company's statement are the increase in investments in high-grade Federal, State and County Bonds, the building up of regular and special reserves to protect not only each policy issued, but to provide for any fluctuation in its investments.

This company outlined during the past year its liberal policy of paying promptly each and every claim arising against it, and in providing dignified and profitable employment to a constantly increasing personnel. The reader should, therefore, grasp the meaning of this company's oft-repeated statement that—"An insurance dime or dollar placed with it renders a double duty to the race." These premiums will not only provide the best insurance protection or security to the policyholder, but will also open doors of employment to hundreds of young men and women.

At the recent annual meeting of the company the stockholders were so pleased with the progress shown by the company during the past year that they re-elected by acclamation the following directors and officers:

James T. Carter, president; B. A. Cephas, vice-president; A. Washington, vice-president; W. A. Jordan, secretary-manager; J. E. Hall, Jr., assistant secretary-manager; W. E. Baker, treasurer. These and the following constitute the board: Charles N. Jackson, A. D. Price, Jr., W. E. Randolph and Percy Wilson.

Send your copy of
THE CRISIS
to a friend

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Equality in Teachers' Pay
Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch*

FILING of mandamus proceedings in the Norfolk City Circuit Court to compel the City School Board to pay a Negro school teacher the same salary that is paid to white teachers with similar training, brings sharply to the fore an issue similar to that which was posed in December by the Supreme Court's decision in the Gaines case, covering a Missouri Negro who had been refused admission to the University of Missouri Law School.

Whether the circumstances in the Norfolk case are such as to make a victory by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People likely, is a matter on which we do not consider ourselves qualified to speak. The Norfolk School Board contends that the issue concerns a contract between the board and the Negro teacher concerned, and that it therefore "is not controlled by any law, rule or regulation affecting civil rights."

But whether or not the N.A.A.C.P. wins this particular case, it will doubtless win some other Virginia case involving teachers' salaries. It can also be taken for granted—in view of the Supreme Court's declaration in the Gaines case that every State must provide "equality" in educational opportunity for members of both races—that such equality will have to be provided in Virginia.

Moreover, haven't the Negro teachers logic on their side? Are we to say that a Negro teacher must undergo all the expense of training herself for a position in the public schools, must take the necessary courses, meet the same requirements and perhaps do special work at summer school to fit herself, must offer courses similar to those given by white teachers, and then be paid half or two-thirds as much as the white teacher?

And how is the Negro to develop an adequate number of qualified Negro doctors, lawyers, clergymen, teachers and business men to minister to the race, if he is denied the opportunity of securing proper graduate and professional instruction?

True, there is insufficient emphasis on trade and vocational training in the Negro schools, just as there is in the white schools. The masses of both races should not concentrate as definitely as they are doing on becoming white-collar workers. But if the Negro is to be expected to grow as a citizen and as a man, he must have trained leaders. And where can those leaders be trained in sufficient numbers, except in State-supported institutions?

Those who marvel at the Negro's steadfast adherence to the New Deal after years of traditional subservience to Republicanism have presented before their eyes this week, if they will see, one of the chief reasons. When Eleanor Roosevelt, first lady of the land, resigned from the Daughters of the American Revolution, because another great American woman, Marian Anderson, was not permitted to use Constitution Hall, she broke another shackle in the chain which binds so much of our country in racial intolerance and bigotry.

It is the little things that the Roosevelts do, as in this latest instance, which make them great and increases in the mind of the thinking Negro respect for the New Deal and most of what it represents. . . . —Minneapolis, Minn., *Spokesman.*

We cannot get enthusiastic about the action of the Board of Education of Washington, D. C., rescinding its former action and approving a compromise motion granting permission to Marian Anderson, the world's greatest contralto, the use of Central High School auditorium for a concert on April 9.

We cannot get enthusiastic about this because there was no victory in it simply because in voting permission for Miss Anderson to use the auditorium the board did so with strings attached—on the provision that a similar request would not be made again.

While we regret the insult to Miss Anderson in her efforts to sing in Washington, we believe that it will have a salutatory effect in that it shows to the world just how democracy works in the nation's capital where jim crow is rife and where Negroes may not go where they wish to or can afford to. . . . —New York, N. Y., *Age.*

. . . . Hitler and Mussolini accepted Miss Anderson when she visited them. They are two strides ahead of the D. A. R. They can point to their American critics that whereas the D. A. R. was given the right to exist by the first blood shed for the cause of democracy that of Crispus Attucks, a Negro, it now scorns a daughter of Attucks. They can say that their countries worship their heroes and wish for one of the caliber of Attucks. The soul-stirring words of Miss Anderson ring out over their mountains and valleys. . . .

Until America can rid itself of such general discrimination as that tendered Miss Anderson it can not afford to criticize other governments. It is too ridiculous a reflection. . . . —Savannah, Ga., *Journal.*

Those who made much of the fact that Supreme Court Justice Hugo L. Black was once a member of the Ku Klux Klan were probably quite surprised last week to pick up their newspapers and read that the United States Supreme Court had reversed the conviction of a Negro in a lower Court, and that Justice Black delivered the decision. The decision, based on the fact that Negroes were excluded from the jury which convicted the man—was a quieter version of the now-celebrated Scottsboro and Herndon decisions which took many years and widespread pressure to obtain from other supreme justices.

The unique thing about the case is that Justice Black is an Alabamian and the case involved a court in his neighboring state of Louisiana.

If the Ku Klux Klan has any more men like Supreme Court Justice Black in its ranks, perhaps it had better send them along to us, too. . . . —The Boston, Mass., *Chronicle.*

Crispus Attucks fell a martyr for American Independence. He was the very first to fall. It is a lengthy time from that episode to that of the Daughters of American Revolution refusing to permit a noted colored woman to display her talent in Constitution Hall. She won this right, not only because of Attucks being the first martyr for Independence, but because thousands of black men fought in the Colonial armies with as much patriotism as any of the others. Last Sunday was the birthday of this great martyr. . . . —Savannah, Ga., *Tribune.*

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

Anti-Lynch Bill Before Senate Sub-Committee

The Wagner-VanNuys-Capper federal anti-lynching bill will be considered by a sub-committee of the Senate judiciary committee named March 11 by Senator Ashurst, chairman of the judiciary committee. The sub-committee consists of Senator Frederick VanNuys, Indiana, chairman; and Senators Neely, of West Virginia; McCarran, of Nevada; Norris, of Nebraska; and Austin, of Vermont.

A date for the hearing on the bill has not been set, but Chairman VanNuys announced that it probably would be held about April 15.

Senator Robert A. Taft, Ohio, speaking at the charter day alumi dinner at Howard university March 2, again pledged his support to the fight for the anti-lynching bill.

Petitions urging support of the bill will be distributed to individuals and cooperating organizations by the N.A.A.C.P. about April 1.

Job Discrimination at N. Y. World's Fair Hit

Exclusion of Negroes from all jobs with the New York World's Fair except those of maids and porters was scored in a resolution adopted March 13 by the board of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. The resolution folows:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which for thirty years has sought opportunities for American Negro citizens without discrimination on account of color and has worked for their integration into all phases of American life, is alarmed at the rigid exclusion of Negroes from all employment with the New York World's Fair, 1939, except in the capacities of maids and porters. In an exposition which purports to indicate the trend toward the world of tomorrow, this association believes that among the first considerations should have been a recognition of the unfairness of discrimination between peoples and the justice of opportunity for all on the basis of merit. This association believes that New York particularly, being in the forefront of cosmopolitan and liberal thought in America, should set a pattern for the rest of the country. We, therefore, condemn the restrictions on employment at the New York World's Fair, 1939, based on race and color, and call upon Grover Whalen, president, and other Fair officials to reverse this policy."

E. LUTHER BROOKES

New president of the Atlanta, Ga., branch

Two New N.A.A.C.P. Directors Named

At the February meeting of the N.A.A.C.P. board of directors, Robert E. Treman, of Ithaca, N. Y., was elected to fill a vacancy. At the March meeting of the board John Henry Hammond, Jr., of New York City, was elected to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of the veteran friend and board member of the association, Charles H. Studin.

Mr. Treman is a trustee of Cornell university and is president of the Treman-King company, of Ithaca. Mr. Hammond is a member of an old New York family and has been active in liberal, labor, and interracial circles for a number of years.

1,200 Cases Handled by Chicago Branch in 1938

More than 1,200 cases involving the denial of citizenship rights to the Negro in Chicago were reported to and acted upon by the Chicago branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during 1938, according to a report issued recently by officials of the branch.

Discrimination against Negroes in the WPA and relief agencies provided the largest percentage of cases. All of these cases, with few exceptions, were settled to the satisfaction of the branch, the report said. There were 37 cases involving discrimination against Negroes by department stores, including the famed Marshall Field and Sears, Roebuck stores.

Court to Hear Virginia Salary Case April 20

The legal action brought by Miss Aline E. Black, teacher in a high school in Norfolk, Va., to secure equal pay with white teachers doing the same work will be heard by Judge Allan R. Hanckel in the circuit court at Norfolk, April 20.

Miss Black is being represented by J. Thomas Hewin, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Leon A. Ransom and Charles H. Houston, attorneys for the N.A.A.C.P. Her suit is a test action against the unequal salary scale now enforced in Virginia. If it is won, it will settle only the salary scale in the city where Miss Black teaches, but it will set a precedent for similar action in other parts of the state. The fact that the attorney general of the state has joined lawyers for the Norfolk Board of Education in defending the suit indicates that the state recognizes the extreme importance of the action.

Oklahoma Vote Case Before Supreme Court

The United States supreme court heard arguments March 3 to determine whether or not the state of Oklahoma may bar Negro citizens from registering to vote under a state statute now in force.

The case involves a $10,000 law suit filed against the registrar of Wagoner County, Okla., in 1934 by I. W. Lane, who charged that he was refused permission to register to vote in that year.

Lane was represented by Charles Chandler, of Muskogee, Okla., and James M. Nabrit, professor of law at Howard university law school, acting for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The association has fought the case through the lower courts.

Compromise in Ban on Marian Anderson Scored

The board of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. March 13 adopted a resolution condemning the plan agreed to by Washington citizens to accept the offer of the school board for the use of Central high school auditorium for Marian Anderson on April 9 because of the conditions attached by the school board. The resolution urged that the offer of the school board be turned down flatly, since the conditions, involving the policy of the school board, could not be accepted with honor.

Subsequently, the superintendent of schools, Dr. Frank Ballou, stated that Miss Anderson could not have the use of the school since the committee refused to accept the conditions attached to the board's granting of the privilege.

As the matter stands at press time, Miss Anderson has no auditorium in which to sing in Washington April 9, and her managers are going ahead with the plan of holding an outdoor concert either on April 9 or early in June.

Leaves N.A.A.C.P. $3,000

THE LATE DR. J. H. SEBREE

Long time friend of the Association who remembered its work in his will

Branch News

The **Oklahoma City, Okla.**, branch presented Bobby Cossey, boy tenor, in a concert in the Municipal Auditorium March 30.

The N.A.A.C.P. Public Forum (not a regularly organized branch) of **Williamsport, Pa.**, installed officers for the year at the February meeting. They are: Elmer Andrews, president; Mrs. Beatrice Lane, vice-president; Miss Esther Irvin, secretary; Mrs. Andrey Burnley, assistant secretary; Mrs. Emma Gordon, treasurer; F. B. Brewington, program chairman; and Bruce Anderson, civic committee chairman. The forum was organized seven years ago following the closing down of the Williamsport, Pa., N.A.A.C.P. branch. A few persons who felt that the ideas of the Association ought to be carried on with or without a formal organization, set up the forum until such time as a new branch could be organized.

The **High Point, N. C.**, branch held a benefit dance March 3 in Kilby Arcade celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the Association.

Lloyd Gaines, victorious plaintiff in the University of Missouri case, spoke to a mass meeting of 1,000 persons sponsored by the **Kansas City, Mo.**, branch February 26.

Dean William Pickens addressed a large mass meeting of the **St. Louis, Mo.**, branch at the Pine Street Y.M.C.A., February 26.

The **Charleston, W. Va.**, branch heard Charles H. Houston at its regular meeting March 12.

Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary, who conducted membership campaigns in **Montgomery** and **Mobile, Ala.**, during February, spoke at a mass meeting in Mobile, March 2.

The **Spokane, Wash.**, branch was among those organizations which telegraphed Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt expressing approval of her resignation from the D.A.R. because of the latter's barring of Marian Anderson from Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C. The branch launched a membership campaign March 9 after an address by the Rev. C. K. Mahoney on "Need of the Anti-lynch Law." The Rev. Emmett B. Reed is president of the branch and F. A. Stokes is secretary.

The **Stamford, Conn.**, branch held its regular meeting March 8.

Dr. L. E. Baxter, who has been president of the **Morris County, N. J.**, branch for seven years, and who retired this year, was tendered a testimonial banquet March 7. Dr. W. A. Muller of Chatham was the principal speaker. Other speakers were Rev. Alexander White and J. Burton Wiley, superintendent of Morristown schools.

James Dorsey, president of the **Milwaukee, Wis.**, branch, appeared before the state assembly judiciary committee March 7 in support of the bill introduced by Assemblyman Ben Rubin which will strengthen state laws against discrimination for race and color. Dean Pickens spoke for the Milwaukee branch March 2.

E. Frederic Morrow, co-ordinator of branches, was a speaker at a mass meeting for the **Paterson, N. J.**, branch February 15. Mr. Morrow spoke February 12 at an interracial tea on the Drew university campus at Madison, N. J.

Charles H. Houston spoke for the Public Forum of the Y.W.C.A. in Camden, N. J., February 28.

The **Detroit, Mich.**, branch held one of the largest birthday dances outside of New York City on February 10. Gross receipts were over $800.

The **Long Branch, N. J.**, branch celebrated the thirtieth anniversary with a dance at Green Briar Inn.

The **Bridgeton, N. J.**, branch held its regular meeting February 16. On February 10 Dean Pickens delivered his famous lecture "Abraham Lincoln," in Bridgeton.

The **Dothan, Ala.**, branch held a special musical program February 13 in Cherry Street A.M.E. church featuring Sampson Stepp. J. L. Vaughn, city recorder, delivered a short address.

Dr. N. C. McPherson, member of the national board of directors, was the principal speaker at a mass meeting of the **New Orleans, La.**, branch February 9.

The **South Boston, Va.**, branch held a program commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Association on February 12. The Rev. Dr. H. W. McNair delivered the principal speech.

The **Petersburg, Va.**, branch conducted a membership drive during February.

A thirtieth anniversary dance was held by the **Youngstown, O.**, branch February 11 at the Y.M.C.A. auditorium. Dean Pickens addressed the branch February 20.

The **Hopewell, Va.**, branch held its thirtieth anniversary dance February 11 at Dreamland Park.

The **Roanoke, Va.**, branch held a meeting celebrating the thirtieth anniversary Friday night, February 10. Among the speakers were the Rev. James R. Johnson, J. L. Reid, the Rev. E. T. Browne and J. H. L. Baxter.

The Phi Delta Kappa sorority had charge of the March meeting of the **Charleston, W. Va.**, branch.

The **Blair County, Pa.**, branch was reorganized February 10.

Judge Fred G. Remann spoke on Lincoln, and the Rev. B. C. Allen on Douglass at the meeting sponsored by the **Tacoma, Wash.**, branch February 12.

J. B. Patterson, chairman of the executive committee of the **Sacramento, Calif.**, branch, was the principal speaker at a race relations meeting February 19 at the Central Methodist church.

The **Springfield, Mass.**, branch held its regular meeting March 1 in the form of a forum, "Consider the problems of Negro youth."

The **Cleveland, O.**, branch is actively opposing the location of the new Central high school in East 40th street, contending that the proposed cite will not serve the best interests of the school population needing the school.

The **Morris County, N. J.**, branch made plans during March for its annual membership campaign under the leadership of the new president, the Rev. Alexander White.

The **Beloit, Wis.**, branch held its February meeting on the fifth at Bethel A.M.E. church.

The **Houston, Tex.**, branch held a thirtieth anniversary dance February 11 in the Downtown Grill.

Thurgood Marshall, assistant special counsel from the national office, was the principal speaker at a young people's rally in Yonkers, N. Y., February 13. Four hundred persons were in attendance.

Dean William Pickens gave two addresses at Millikin university in Decatur, Ill., February 23. The speeches were arranged by the **Decatur** branch as part of the thirtieth anniversary celebration of the Association.

The **Keokuk, Ia.**, branch held its celebration of the thirtieth anniversary February 11 in the Union Masonic Hall with a program of short speeches and musical numbers and a radio receiver for the purpose of hearing the broadcast of Duke Ellington's music from the anniversary dance in New York City.

The **New Bedford, Mass.**, branch held its birthday ball at Cornell Hall February 11.

A tea was given by the auxiliary of the **Columbus, O.**, branch February 19 at Masonic Hall. Mrs. Elmer Erlick Levinger was the speaker. Nine hundred persons attended the affair.

Dr. Allen Jackson, president of the **Hartford, Conn.**, branch, was elected chairman of the executive board of the **New England Regional Conference of Branches** in February. Other officers are: Joseph LeCount, Providence, president; Mrs. E. C. Brooks, New Bedford, vice-president; Alfred Travernier, Springfield, secretary; and Julian Steele, Boston, treasurer.

Representative Nicholas Tomassetti of New Britain, Conn., was the speaker for the **Hartford, Conn.**, branch March 1. His subject was civil rights in Connecticut.

The Rev. R. D. Jones was the principal speaker February 20 for the **Steubenville, O.**, branch.

One of the hardest workers for better housing in Jamaica is John A. Singleton, president of the **Jamaica, N. Y.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. Dr. Singleton was very active in securing the approval for a $2,489,000 housing project for South Jamaica.

Dean Pickens and Homer S. Brown, president of the **Pittsburgh, Pa.**, branch, were the principal speakers at a meeting held February 16 at the Central Baptist church.

The **Wilmington, Dela.**, branch held a meeting honoring Frederick Douglass on February 16.

Dr. Herbert A. Turner of Chicago was the principal speaker at the installation services February 12 at the **Gary, Ind.**, branch meeting.

As a result of the thirtieth anniversary celebration, the **Roanoke, Va.**, branch sent $55 to the national office. Those serving on the committee of arrangements were Mrs. L. C. Downing, C. C. Williams, W. C. Rose, J. A. Reynolds and Miss Justine K. Spencer.

Isadore Martin, member of the national board of directors, addressed the **Bridgeton, N. J.**, branch at its regular monthly meeting, following which a report on the discrimination against colored boys in local high school athletics was made. A committee was appointed to investigate further. The meeting also adopted a resolution condemning the actions of a white tavern owner who barred colored people from his grill, but when he found business was bad, advertised through the colored section the opening of a separate Negro bar in his establishment. The advertising was done by means of a black-faced sandwich man.

The **Princeton, N. J.**, branch held the first of two interracial programs February 26. The speaker was Dean Laurence Fenninger of Princeton university. Mr. Fenninger having spent fifteen years as chaplain at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, is well acquainted with the aims and purposes of the N.A.A.C.P. The second interracial program was held on March 26. The speaker was Dean Howard Thurman of Howard Theological Seminary. The program was assisted by a chorus from the Westminster Choir College of the city. Dr. David W. Anthony is president of the branch as well as president of the **New Jersey Conference of the N.A.A.C.P.** This branch now boasts a membership over two hundred.

Damages of $500 were awarded Mrs. Dorothy Jorelles and Mrs. Lucille Marion of Chicago for being refused in a restaurant in that city, after a suit had been filed under the Illinois civil rights law by the **Chicago, Ill.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. Sidney A. Jones, member of the city legal redress committee, handled the case.

A new branch of the N.A.A.C.P. was organized in **Glouchester County, Va.**, February 12 following an address by Dr. J. M. Tinsley, president of the **Richmond, Va.**, branch and of the **Virginia State Conference of Branches.** Officers elected: President, G. Nelson Carter; vice-president, G. McCurley Garnett; secretary, Miss Doris Stokes; assistant secretary, C. W. Young; treasurer, Joseph Perry. The executive board is composed of Dr. R. S. Turner, Christopher Gardner, Rev. O. M. Thomas, James Carter, Miss Carol N. Davenport, Miss Margaret Stokes, S. W. Wilson, Mrs. Mary E. White and J. R. Davenport.

The following officers were elected by the **Mecklenburg County, Va.**, branch at Chase City, March 3: Dr. F. A. Sealey, president; Charles A. Blackwell, vice-president; Edwin W. Davis, secretary; Miss Wallicia E. Sally, assistant secretary; and Dr. William W. Pierce, treasurer. Members of the executive committee are: W. E. Davis, Mrs. Irma B. Blackwell, Jessie Smith, R. T. Tapp, L. R. Carter, Mrs. Bettie Smith, Mrs Hattie Truman, Garrison Sally, Mrs. Pallie E. Bowers, Mrs. Lucinda Farrar, Mrs. Frances J. Tisdale, the Rev. W. B. Wilson, R. Tucker and Porter Jones.

The **St. Louis, Mo.**, branch launched its campaign February 26 with a huge mass meeting addressed by Dean William Pickens. Despite the heavy snow, a large audience was present. The goal of the campaign is $3,500.

Dean William Pickens spoke on the adult education forum of the Des Moines, Ia., March 11 on "The Future of the American Negro."

Following the general mass meeting with Dr. Charles L. Hill of Morris Brown college as speaker and membership fees totaling $151, the new **Atlanta, Ga.**, branch president, Clark University's Professor E. Luther Brookes, organized a thought-provoking, highly spirited and enthusiastic February meeting around the topic "Next steps in Georgia educationally in the light of the Gaines' decision."

Participants: attorneys, T. W. Holmes and A. T. Walden; editors, C. A. Scott and Lucius Jones; college presidents, Charles Hubert and F. B. Washington; professors, B. T. Harvey and Hattie V. Feger; civil league president, J. W. Dobbs; business man, H. S. Murphy; the Rev. M. L. King, politician, Ben Davis, Sr.

The branch went on record to stand by the spirit and letter of the Gaines decision and to actively sponsor and encourage applications of qualified students for entrance in professional schools of the University of Georgia.

Miss Hattie V. Feger, third year financial membership campaign manager, opened the campaign which is to extend through March.

N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council News

Spring Membership Campaigns

Letters have been sent out to youth councils and college chapters, reminding them that the time for spring membership campaigns is at hand. Increased membership creates increased interest and activity, and enables youth groups to become greater assets in their respective communities.

Reports should be made to the national office as soon after the campaign as possible, forwarding one half of the membership fee collected, together with correct name and address of member. Every time membership material is requested from the national office, some accounting is expected of same. Councils holding unreported membership campaigns are doing so in violation of the Youth Council Constitution.

It is our hope that the youth membership of the Association will reach 10,000 during 1939. Are you doing your share to help us reach our goal?

Prepare for Conference

Preparations have begun for the Youth Section of the 30th annual Conference.

Rev. James H. Robinson, member of the board of directors, has been appointed Acting Youth Director of the Conference. All questions or suggestions regarding the conference may be addressed to him at the national office.

The important things to remember right now are (1) the filling in and returning of the questionnaire to Dr. Elizabeth Yates Webb, in Washington, D. C. The answers will determine, to a large extent, the nature of the completed program; (2) completion of apportionments for Honor Roll placement; (3) devising ways and means of sending delegates to Richmond; (4) completion of reports of activities since last conference, copies of which are to be sent to the national office at least one month before the conference.

New Council in Seattle

After seeking for some time an adequate solution to problems, local and national, affecting the general welfare of youth, a group of Seattle, Washington, young people met and organized a youth council of the N.A.A.C.P. In a letter to the national office, Frank Collins, secretary of the temporary committee, said in part: "We have watched with interest the development of youth branches in other sections, and have noted the valuable

aid and assistance they have been able to render to the adult branches in those localities. We are certain that we shall give the same valuable service in this community." The temporary officers are Carl Brooks, Joe Manning, Maxine Manning, Floy Collins and Celeste V. Long.

Theatre Improvements Sought

The Tulsa, Oklahoma, youth council has taken on new life since its reorganization, and is forging right ahead. For some time, citizens of Tulsa have have complained conditions at the Dreamland theatre. The management has been averse to making any improvements for its patrons.

In February, the Youth Council met and discussed plans to boycott the theatre until the desired changes were effected. In March, the management invited representatives of the N.A.A.C.P. to attend a conference, at which time the following promises were made: (1) the theatre will be painted within thirty days; (2) the men's toilet will be screened so that it will not be open to public view; (3) the women's toilet will be screened, pending removal of same at a later date to another part of the building where it will not be conspicuous or near confectionery counter; (4) the water fountain will be moved so that it will not be directly in front of the toilet door; (5) the old seats will be replaced with upholstered ones up to the last ten rows; (6) strict order within the theatre will be maintained so that all may hear. An individual creating a disturbance will be first cautioned and later evicted from the theatre if the caution is not heeded; (7) the sounding screens adorning the wall will be attractively framed; (8) a trailer condemning expectorating on the floor and showing the dangers of disease spreading will be shown in the theatre regularly; (9) the management will allow civic organizations to sponsor pictures for the benefit of civic improvement; (10) the management will donate the hall and pay all bills as its contribution toward helping the N.A.A.C.P. secure funds to carry out its local and national program; (11) the management will cooperate with all civic organizations when approached concerning the use of the hall or theatre when such organizations are sponsoring projects for civic benefit; (12) the management will allow churches and civic organizations to sponsor pictures if given two weeks' notice.

Toledo Outlines Program

The Toledo, Ohio, youth council has lined up a very interesting program of activities for the rest of the year. These include an educational study; sponsorship of the Youth Section of the Ohio State Conference, April 21-23; joint sponsorship of a civic program with the senior branch; memorial service for the late James Weldon Johnson; annual youth council dinner.

The newly elected officers of the council are John C. Anderson, Jr., president; Charles Ward, Jr., vice-president; Mary L. Lyte, secretary; Norma Cousins, assistant secretary; Twyman Traynum, treasurer; Franklyn Duffy, publicity; Bernice Matthews, membership.

Officers Elected

The newly elected officers of the Staten Island, N. Y., youth council are: Rudolph West, president; Helen Warren, vice-president; Alice West, secretary; Theodore Spellman, treasurer. The council is making plans to raise funds to complete its apportionment by June in order to become an Honor Roll member.

Education Program

The Columbus, Ohio, youth council has outlined a study program for the remainder of the year, through which its members can develop a deeper appreciation of the contributions and achievements of the Negro to American life and culture. This program also includes a study of Negro history, in order that the proper foundation may be laid for the understanding of current problems.

Membership Drive

The Boston, Mass., youth council is completing plans for its annual spring membership drive which opens April 16 in conjunction with the senior branch drive. A goal of 500 members had been set by the council.

The speakers bureau, which will play an important part in the campaign, has filled many engagements during the past year, some of which are becoming annual affairs. The majority of these engagements are with white youth groups, representing religious, social, political and civic interests, and they in turn send speakers to the council. This plan of interracial cooperation has met with much success, and has proved mutually beneficial.

Allen University Aids Education Fund with $25

The Allen University college chapter, Columbia, S. C., sent a $25 contribution to the Education Fund of the Association in recognition of the recent victory in the University of Missouri case in the U. S. Supreme Court. Included in this amount was a donation from members of the Conway A.M.E. Church, Conway, S. C.

Chapel Program

The LeMoyne College chapter, Memphis, Tenn., has been very active since its formation a few months ago. It has developed a fine local program, and has participated in the national youth program of the Association. The first chapel program was held at the college March 31. A membership drive is under way in order that the number of persons needed for charter application may be obtained.

Jersey City Mass Meeting

A mass meeting was held recently by the Jersey City, N. J., youth council at the Y.W.C.A. House of Friendliness. Anthony Mayo, principal speaker, urged membership of Negroes in their own organizations, in order that a united drive for extension of the rights of colored people as citizens in a democratic country may be secured. During the question period that followed Mr. Mayo's talk, the recent resignation of Mrs. Roosevelt from the D.A.R. was brought up, and highest praise was expressed by the council members for her "upholding in reality the democratic principles which the D.A.R. is supposed to represent." James H. Haygood. vice-president of the council, presided.

Negro Health Week In Silver Jubilee

The twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of National Negro Health Week will occur April 2-9, but the observance of the silver anniversary will continue throughout the month of April. The objective for the year 1939 is "A citizen's responsibility for community health."

Extradition Blocked

The Chicago branch of the N.A.A.C.P., through Attorneys William A. Booker and James G. Lemon, Jr., prevented the extradition of Wayne Robinson to Pritchard, Ala. It was established that Robinson was not in Pritchard at the time when the murder, of which he was accused, was committed. Action was taken upon request of the Mobile branch of the N.A.A.C.P.

NEED A LAWYER?

See pages 124-125

Coon Hunt

(*Continued from page* 109)

on the blue denim overall legs a dark splotch grew larger and larger. Once, Joel thought he saw one of the toes twitch slightly.

Then through the crowd he saw a big, red-faced man push his way roughly, a long, hunting knife in his hand. "Lemme at the black nigger," the man demanded. "I'll teach him to bother a white woman! I'll cut his livin' guts out!" Joel recognized the speaker as the man Lil Tate called Shiner Brooks. He was apparently the leader of the mob, and as he finished speaking, half a dozen smaller knife blades flashed in the light of the fire, and the men took up the cry in a swelling refrain: "Cut his livin' guts out!"

Through the copse, far, far to the East, dawn was breaking. But Joel saw silhouetted against the roseate splendor which was the promise of dawn, only a hound baying up at two black feet that dangled from a pair of blue overall pants legs. "Cut his livin' guts out!" The cry rang in his ears—the battle cry of the coon hunt. And for the first time in his thirteen years, Joel Smith went back on all his pre-arranged patterns of one-hundred per cent American boyhood, and fainted.

A FEW hours later the same morning, heavy-eyed and nervous, Joel was vainly trying to eat breakfast in the Mosby kitchen, when a neighbor woman came in. Joel did not know her, but he had seen her about the neighborhood many times—always talking or looking for something to talk about. Her sharp eyes fell on him as she entered.

"What's the matter with him?" she asked Joel's aunt.

'Lina Mosby poured a spoonful of batter on the sizzling griddle, before she answered, "Oh, he went with Lil Tate to the lynchin' las' night. An' it war his first un."

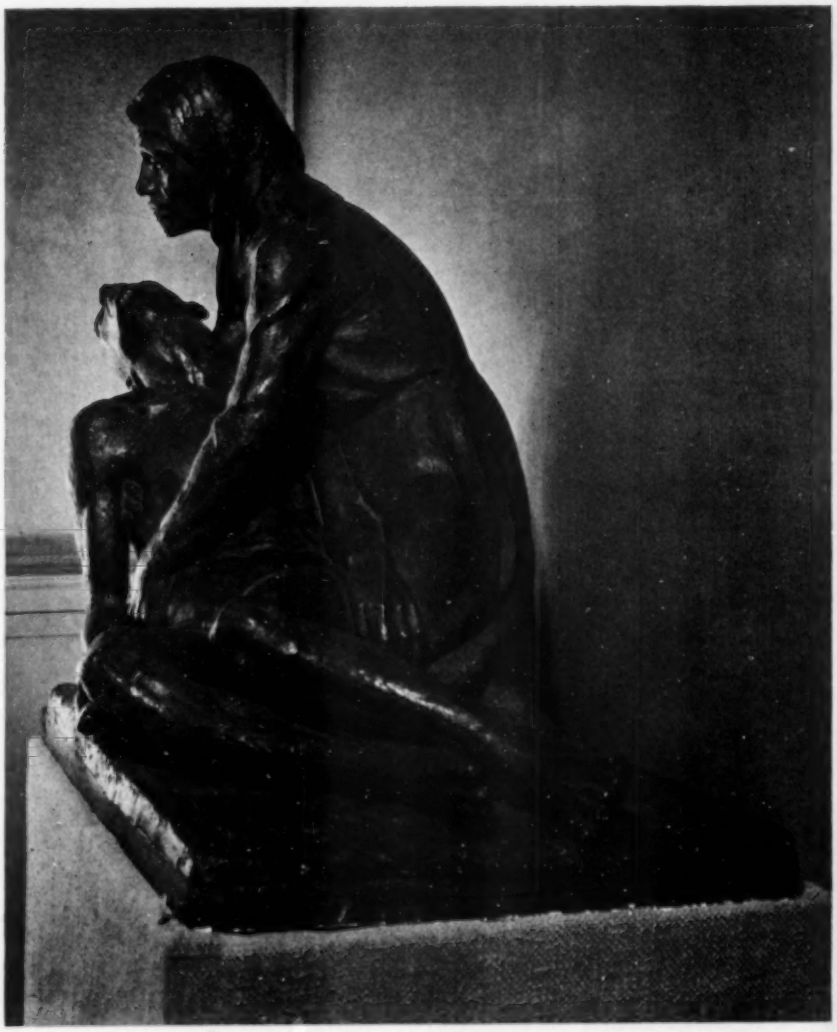
"Humph! That warn't nuthin' to git all pale and sick-lookin' 'bout." The neighbor woman shrugged her shoulders in a gesture of disappointment. "I thought there war somethin' wrong with him."

Then she perked up again. "But what do you reckon?" she asked. And before 'Lina Mosby could say a word, she went on to answer her question: "That Nannie Brooks jes' fibbed! She never seen that nigger before. There warn't a man near her, 'ceptin' Hank Jarbors. An' do you know why her clothes was all tore off her like that? 'Cause Lettie Jarbors caught her an' Hank together. Lettie was a-tellin' ev'rybody in taown 'bout it early this mornin' after the lynchin'. She said she tried to beat the life outa Nannie. An' Nannie knew her pa'd finish her if he foun' out, so she said it war a nigger, an' run off to Fort Smith. They say Shiner is goin' after her, an get her to make her pay him for all the moonshine that he give the men who helped him hunt for that nigger. He's mighty riled, too 'cause he had to pay 'Lige Jarbors five dollars for usin' them haoun's." The neighborhood narrator paused for breath.

"My ol' man," she continued after a moment, "brought home a toenail for a souvenir, an' I hear that Sam Yokum got a big toe. Ef I'd a-been thar, though, I'd a-got a piece o' his pants. It would-a made a right nice quilt patch, don't you think?"

While the griddle cakes burned on one side, 'Lina Mosby solemnly declared that she "should say so!" Lil Tate snickered over his breakfast of side meat and hot cakes.

But Joel, choking on a sorghum-soaked piece of fried batter, did not hear them. He heard again the frenzied baying of a pack of hounds, and the excited yells and curses of a mob of lynch-crazed men. He heard again the bloodthirstry cry: "Cut his livin' guts out!" And still he saw silhouetted against the roseate splendor of the dawn, a crouching hound with head upturned to bay at two black feet that dangled grotesquely from the legs of a pair of blue denim overalls.



"THE MOTHER"

Central piece in the one-man show of the sculptor, Richmond Barthé, at the Arden Galleries, 460 Park avenue, New York City. The figure represents a mother gathering her lynched son into her arms

Send THE CRISIS to a Friend

BOOK NEWS and REVIEWS

THE CHANGING WORLD IN PLAYS AND THEATRE. By Anita Block. Little Brown and Company. Boston. $2.75.

Anita Block is a well-known dramatic critic and for ten years, 1926-1936, was reader of foreign plays for the Theatre Guild. Her book deals with modern and contemporary drama, and is important for all who are familiar with the theatre, and also for those, who, though unable to see modern plays, read them.

For "the play's the thing" to Mrs. Block. While a good production adds theatrical values, "neither production, nor good acting, nor good scenery can add a hair's weight of value to the play itself. A fine production may enhance the play's values as theatre, but it can never supply any values which would entitle the play to live on as dramatic literature". In her first chapter the author describes "the moderns", those near our time and yet far enough away to show the permanence of great writing, Ibsen, Hauptmann, Shaw, Galsworthy, Brieux, Chekhov, and others. Then come the moderns whom time has not yet pronounced upon. "What does their work mean to us living today? Are they writing about subjects of interest and importance to the contemporary world, and are they treating these subjects with vision and courage?"

Readers of THE CRISIS will be interested to see what plays written about Negroes Mrs. Block includes under this exacting standard. There are five, each described in considerable detail with pages of dialogue: O'Neill's "Emperor Jones" and "All God's Chillum Got Wings", Paul Green's "In Abraham's Bosom", and in the chapter, "Social Conflict of the Left", John Wexley's "They Shall Not Die", and George Sklar's "Stevedore".

Much has been written about the first three plays and many colored people have condemned them. But certainly these plays are about "subjects of interest and importance". In the first we have the curse of slavery that pursues the Emperor Jones, and in the second miscegenation and the opposition of the white to the Negro's advancement. In all three the Negro is frustrated, but all are greatly written and reveal for the readers of the future the ghastliness of race prejudice.

Of the other two plays by the leftists, "They Shall Not Die" is a highly dramatic account of the Scottsboro trial. It is certainly to the credit of the Theatre Guild that it produced this play on Broadway.

"Stevedore" was given in New York by the Group Theatre and was so exciting and so full of courage that one feels it should be produced by schools and colleges and those little theatres where Negroes act. It tells of a strike and the solidarity of white and colored workers, ending with the black men and women barricading their street and the arrival of their white friends to help bring them victory.

Many plays have been omitted that deserve place in this volume, but those included are described so fully that one understands the significance of each. And it is encouraging on closing the book to see that the theatre, unlike the moving picture, has contributed its share toward the depiction of these most important problems in this changing world.

MARY WHITE OVINGTON

AND TELL OF TIME. By Laura Krey. 712 pp. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. $2.75.

The next Congress of the United States might well consider declaring a moratorium on all Civil War novels. But, "Gone With the Wind" set a dubious fashion for genteel southern writers who still try to justify the mistakes of their forebears who started something they couldn't finish.

Personally, I'm tired of mammies in bandannas—of slaves happy under the boot of conscienceless overseers—of ragged pickaninnies born to a life of ease and nurtured in shiftlessness, thrilling to gifts of candy and rag dolls at Christmas time—of servants loyal to master and mistress, born to serve, and who live only to fulfill that destiny—of delicate white womanhood ever exposed to the lust of black brutes—of southern gentlemen, born to the purple, the chef d'oevre of God, harassed and thwarted by damned Yankees, who are alleged to believe that black equals white in the human equation. In fact, I'm just tired.

Mrs. Krey's story has its roots in the Civil War and begins with the disillusioned journey homeward of the disbanded southern armies. The story develops into the history of the Reconstruction period in the Brazos country of Eastern Texas. The country of Brazos was settled by pioneers out of Virginia, Georgia, Louisiana, and the Carolinas, and is almost purely southern in tradition.

These are the people of whom Mrs. Krey writes, and the story she tells is chiefly the story of Cavin Darcy, Texas-born, who came back to his father's plantation at the end of the war, bringing with him his bride, Lucina Lyttleton, from Georgia. The couple arrive in Texas to find it occupied by a northern army and policed by Negro troops—an intolerable situation. After an encounter with a drunken Negro soldier, Cavin resolves that Texas must be freed of such insulting conditions.

Quite in contrast are the lovable, faithful Darcy servants. Their sole thought is to serve, and serve well, their master and his family. Jake, Cavin's body servant has followed him through the war, and eventually marries Maria, Mrs. Darcy's maid. The other "Aunties" and "Uncles" on the plantation exhibit the same fierce loyalty. "Uppity" Negroes are not tolerated. If any are found among the plantation hands, they are soon turned out, apparently to come to no good end without the paternal guidance of Cavin.

No more subtle propaganda has ever been spread about the virtues of the South and the treason of the North during those weary years of Reconstruction, than that penned in the pages of Mrs. Krey's book. There are times when the sheer artistry of the political, economic and social arguments advanced make the erstwhile vaporings of Heflin, Blease and Vardaman appear juvenile.

To the uninformed and the misinformed this book will probably provide delightful romance and convincing attitudes of life. For those who have explored the deeper stratum beneath the period depicted, the novel will cause real concern. Concern because it romanticizes a tragic era in American history that left scars and wounds, still fresh today, because most writers and historians who write about the period are fictionists, rather than realists. How long shall we go on fighting the battles of the past through the pages of elephantine historical novels?

E. FREDERIC MORROW

Edward Fraction and two maidens in the WPA play, "The Swing Mikado"

Received for Review

"Race Against Man" by Herbert J. Seligmann with introduction by Dr. Franz Boas. G. P. Putnam Sons. 248 pages. $2.75.

"To Make a Poet Black" by J. S. Redding. University of North Carolina Press. 142 pages. $1.50.

BRONZE BOOKLETS

Facts About Negro Life and Thought by Negroes

No. 1—Adult Education Among Negroes
by IRA DE A. REID

No. 2—The Negro and His Music
by ALAIN LOCKE

No. 3—Negro Art: Past and Present
by ALAIN LOCKE

No. 4—A World View of Race
by RALPH J. BUNCHE

No. 5—The Negro and Economic Reconstruction
by T. ARNOLD HILL

No. 6—The Negro in American Fiction
by STERLING BROWN
(Double Number—35 cents singly: 50 cents, paper boards)

No. 7—Negro Poetry and Drama
by STERLING BROWN

No. 8—Negro History in Outline (May 1939)
by ARTHUR A. SCHOMBURG

Paper Board Binding, 50 cents each
Paper, 25 cents each

THE CRISIS
69 Fifth Avenue New York, N. Y.

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DR. J. W. BLACK
Box 1144, Rocky Mount, N. C.

DR. F. L. BRODIE
1422 W. 3rd St., Chester, Pa.

DR. H. SUMNER COLUM
551 E. 47th St., Chicago, Ill.

DR. A. B. COOPER
236 Auburn Ave., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

DR. AYLWOOD T. CORNWELL
85 B. Morris, Charleston, S. C.

DR. C. S. COWAN
Box 254, Danville, Va.

DR. WATSON FOWLER
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570 Davis Ave., Mobile, Ala.

DR. URIEL GUNTHORPE
408 North Ave.,
New Rochelle, N. Y.

DR. CHALMERS HAIRSTON
720 N. Carrollton Ave.,
Baltimore, Md.

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1205 E. Long St., Columbus, O.

DR. HENRY W. HUNTER
2288 E. 55th St., Cleveland, O.

DR. EDWARD C. JONES
5½ West Liberty St., Sumter, S. C.

DR. VOIGHT JONES
2242 Ridge Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

DR. SAMUEL E. LOGAN
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DR. J. ERNEST MARTIN
725 Bland St., Bluefield, W. Va.

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SORORITY CELEBRATES FINER WOMANHOOD WEEK

The Zeta Phi Beta sorority, in its annual nation-wide celebration of Finer Womanhood Week, completed early in March, has made a noteworthy contribution to the ongoing process of cultivation of the Negro in American society. If we adhere to the principle set forth in the adage, "a race can rise no higher than its women," then the logical conclusion to be drawn is that we must elevate our women if our race is to rise. And the term *elevate* is here used in all its connotations, meaning uplift, advance, and respect.

The Chicago chapters of Zeta Phi Beta sorority paid tribute to Negro womanhood in their second annual essay contest, held on February 24 at Good Shepherd's Congregational church. Seven contestants from high schools all over Chicago discussed the topic, "The Negro Woman's Contribution to Civilization." These high school girls extolled the Negro woman, calling attention to her prominent part in the arts, the sciences, religion, and education. Famous names of the past were conjured up and evaluations placed on contemporary Negro women.

Winners in the essay contest were: Marion Marcelle, Phillips high school, first prize; Jorene Carter, Englewood, second, and Alma Dorsey, Du Saible, third.

Judges for the event were James B. Cashin, Samuel Stratton, Albert Lovett, J. Waters, and Mrs. Katharine Irving.

The essay contest was sponsored by Arah H. Malone, who holds the A.B. degree from Fisk University, class of '19 and the M.A. from Northwestern University, class of '37. A teacher in the Chicago public school system for 16 years, Mrs. Malone is particularly well equipped for work with young people.

The *Carolina Magazine,* published at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C., devoted its February issue to a consideration of the higher education of Negroes and the question of Negroes applying to the graduate schools of southern universities.

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—Policies in force: 1,643,125
—Ordinary Insurance: $80,106,234
—Industrial Insurance: $181,961,766.63.
—Health and Accident Insurance: $26,895,069.37
—Employment: 8,150 Negroes
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Tuberculosis

(*Continued from page* 112)

the national average.[3] In this region, which President Roosevelt has called "the No. 1 sore spot on the economic map of the nation," lives three-fourths of the Negro population of the United States. This population, which comprises one-fourth of the total population of the South, contributes more than one-half of the deaths from tuberculosis here. The National Emergency Council has given a clear picture of a section which, despite its wealth of natural resources, has only one-sixteenth of the national income. Symptomatic are wage differentials, which result in illness affecting earnings, two and one-half million houses below standard, insufficient hospitals and clinics with whole counties having no health facilities, poverty stricken rural areas showing a death rate twice as high as the city's average, child labor, illiteracy, and death. This is the tragic story of the South. And the Negroes are forced to a level of living worse than that of the poorest whites.

That the problem of tuberculosis among Negroes is the major health problem of the South and one which is likewise the responsibility of the white race is being recognized in this region. At a joint conference of the Southern Tuberculosis Conference and the Southern Sanatorium Association in Houston, Texas, in 1936, authorities revealed that approximately 50 per cent of the Negro female population supplies domestic and other labor, and that they are responsible for a large part of the disease carried into white homes. Statistical studies presented at the conference showed that a higher percentage of infection was found among children from homes which employed Negro labor than from homes where no domestic labor was employed. A few years ago Gov. James V. Allred of Texas stressed the danger to the whites of tuberculosis among the Negro population when he asked the legislature to appropriate funds for the maintainence of a state tuberculosis sanatorium. A sanatorium is now in operation at Kerrville, but its facilities are limited. Despite the higher mortality among Negroes, the South has only one bed for each five or six deaths among this race, while there is approximately one bed with sanatorium facilities for each death among the whites. Therefore, a Negro suffering from the disease has only one chance in five of securing hospitalization. Statistics reveal that in some communities 25 per cent of Negro victims die without medical attention.

Negro Health Week

The willingness of the Negro people to cooperate in fighting the dread disease killing so many of their numbers has been proved. Each year they throw their full support back of National Negro Health Week, which is observed April 4 to April 11. This program gives special attention to the struggle to wipe out tuberculosis. The enthusiasm with which the Negro people of Detroit have joined the splendid municipal campaign speaks for itself. The purpose of this campaign is to treat early cases of the disease with surgery so that taxpayers will be saved the cost of patients' hospitalization later on. Dr. Paul De Kruif, who is a sponsor of the campaign, described the eagerness of Detroit Negroes to cooperate.[4] In the poverty-stricken, infected areas of low income, the Negro response was eight times as great as that of the white, though they did not understand what the campaign was all about. They came to the clinics even before nurses could reach their homes to request them.

Tuberculosis is the problem of our whole population, though the situation is more acute among the Negroes. More education on the part of the public, and better facilities with which to cope with the disease are needed. Particular stress should be placed on the training of Negro doctors and nurses. Equally important is the need for a change in society itself with a raising of the economic level of the people. Probably the first step in this direction is the New Deal program with its emphasis on health, social security, better wages, and better housing.

[3] Isabel McCaffrey, *A Statistical Picture of Tuberculosis in the South*, p. 2, National Tuberculosis Association, New York, 1938.

[4] Paul De Kruif, *The Fight For Life*, Harcourt Brace & Co., New York, 1938.

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Talladega Library

(*Continued from page* 111)

Murals By Woodruff

So, too, with the memorials inside the structure. Entering the western doors, one stands in a large, oak panelled lobby, along one side of which are the Hale Woodruff murals of the *Amistad* incident. Just one hundred years ago those thirty-nine Negroes were forced to choose between the desperate alternatives of slavery and mutiny. A century later, a Negro artist completes a magnificent mural painting to commemorate the incident.

The first panel of the triptych shows the deck scene of the mutiny. The large central panel depicts the trial in the New Haven courts before Judge Thompson, with Arthur and Lewis Tappan, Roger Baldwin, and others coming to the successful defense of the captives. The last panel pictures the return to Africa, and the consummation of the first great effort to find a third way out of the damning dilemma of American caste. This was the effort which led to the founding of the American Missionary Association, as a legend in the terrazzo floor of the lobby records. It is appropriate that the centennial year of the *Amistad* mutiny should find one of the American Missionary Association colleges commemorating the event in brass and marble and in oils, in a fine structure named after one of the freedmen founders.

And so, too, with the services of the building. It is not enough to commemorate the past—the college must make the future. Accordingly, the building is designed to serve not merely the college campus, but the surrounding city and county as well. And here, also, the service is interracial. Talladega was chartered to provide educational facilities "from which no one shall be debarred because of race or color" (as one of the memorial plaques in the entrance of the new library records).

Andrew Carnegie personally gave the college its first library building, thirty-five years ago. In accordance with the spirit of the charter, the college now extends the open-handed generosity of Mr. Carnegie by reaching out into the city and county with its book services. There is a fine, large, light, community reading room, designed to serve the nine thousand people of the city of Talladega —both races are welcome. There is a book collection to serve both this community library and the travelling library for the county.

Travelling Library

A Bookmobile, the one item of equipment not yet provided, will go out through the rural schools and hamlets of the county, bringing cultural opportunities into the cabins of sharecroppers and tenants. It is hoped that the County may take a share in the annual expense of the enterprise; but in any case, the College is committed to extend the services of its finest and newest enterprise out into the surrounding countryside. Fifty years of such services will go a long way to transform the thinking and habits of the country folk hereabouts.

And fifty years of using such a building will go a long way toward educating the coming generation of Negro youth to the significance of the struggle against caste. They are daily reminded by the murals of the false alternative American society thrusts upon us. They are daily offered, in the wealth of library materials, the means of educating themselves to transform and to transcend the caste system. They are continually participating in an educational enterprise which has a social vision, which is concerned with the plight of the common man, and wants to do something about that plight right here and now, in order to build the future.

Alabama Juror

The Rev. A. W. Rice, pastor of Calvery Presbyterian church in Anniston, Ala., was called to serve on the petit jury of the Calhoun County circuit court for the spring term. This is the first time a colored juror has been called for service in this county.

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